THE MYTHICAL DETECTIVE LOKI

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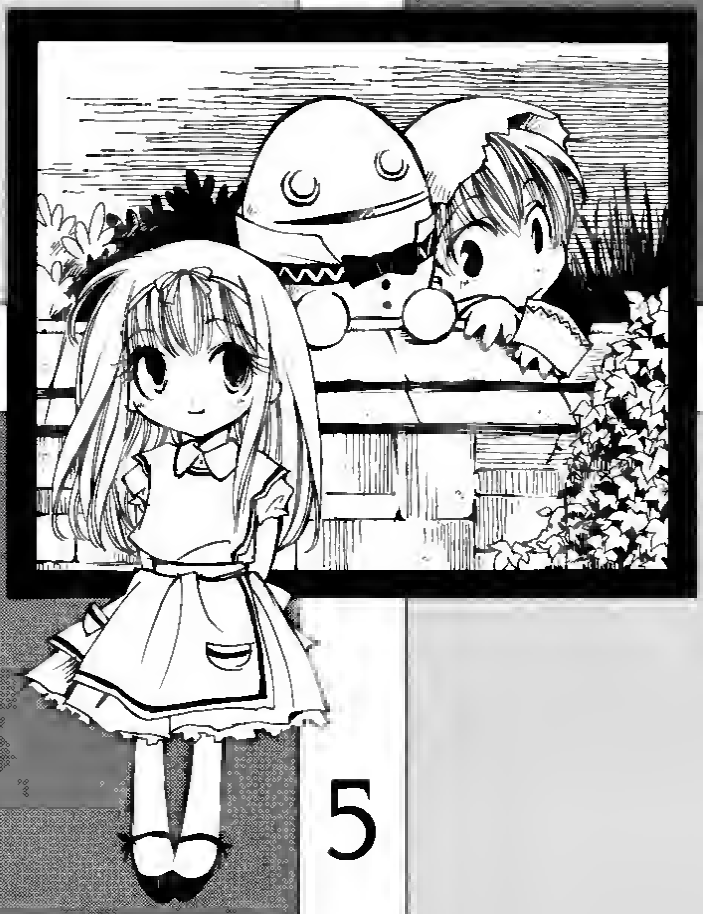
THE MYTHICAL DETECTIVE LOKI



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KINOSHITA SAKURA

NARU-KUN'S CHATTY

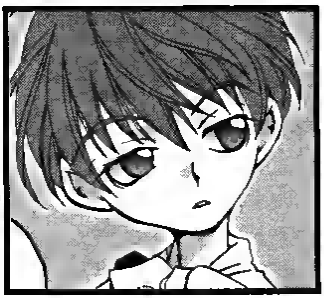
MYSTICAL DETECTIVE LOKI CHARACTER INTRODUCTIONS

NARUGAMI: I GUESS YOU COULD SAY I'M A KIND OF HEROIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT! THE TRUTH IS, I'M ACTUALLY THE NORSE GOD THOR. I BRANDISH MY GREAT HAMMER, MJOLNIR, AND WITH A ***BANG BANG BANG***, EVIL KNOWS MY.....

KOUTARO KAKINOUCHI: HE'S LIKE, A PLAYBOY OF A RICH HIGH SCHOOL KID. THE WAY HE STANDS ON THINGS LIKE THAT IS PRETTY CLOSE TO LOKI'S POINT OF VIEW, I GUESS...

RYUSUKE YAMINO: THE GLASSES GUY WHO HANGS OUT AROUND LOKI ALL THE TIME, TAKING CARE OF HIM AND STUFF. I FEEL LIKE HE IS AVOIDING ME, BUT MAYBE IT'S JUST MY IMAGINATION.

MAYURA DAIDOUJI: A HIGH SCHOOL GIRL WHO'S A BIG MYSTERY FAN, SO SHE SORT OF HONED IN ON LOKI AND FORCED HIM TO LET HER BE HIS ASSISTANT. IF SHE SHUTS UP, SHE'S PRETTY CUTE.....



LOKI: EVEN IF I DIDN'T TELL YOU SO, IT'S PRETTY OBVIOUS HE'S THE MAIN CHARACTER OF THIS STORY. HE'S THE HEAD DETECTIVE OF THE LITTLE BIRD DETECTIVE AGENCY, BUT IN REALITY, HE'S THE NORSE GOD OF MISCHIEF. HE'S PRETTY FAMOUS UP IN ASGARD FOR BEING A BIT OF A PLAYBOY, SO....

KAZUMI HIGASHIYAMA: HE LOOKS LIKE AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KID, BUT HE'S REALLY THE NORSE GOD HEIMDALL. HE SEEMS TO BE TRYING TO KILL LOKI. HE'S A SNEAKY BASTARD IF YOU ASK ME.

SKULD: THE THIRD OF THE THREE NORNS WHO OVERSEE THE FATE OF GODS AND MEN IS SKULD. SHE'S SO ENERGETIC IT'S KIND OF TOO MUCH, AND I GUESS SHE'S A BIG FAN OF LOKI'S?

VERDANDI: THE SECOND OF THE NORNS WHO OVERSEE THE FATES OF GODS AND MEN IS VERDANDI. I HEARD SHE'S A LITTLE BIT LIKE A MAD SCIENTIST?

URD: THE ELDEST OF THE THREE NORNS, THE GODDESSES WHO OVERSEE THE FATE OF GODS AND MEN. SHE'S A VERY CALM AND COOL TYPE, YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT SHE'S THINKING. MAYBE IT'S ONE OF HER GOOD POINTS?

FREYA: THE NORSE GODDESS OF LOVE AND FERTILITY. FOR SOME REASON, SHE'S COME TO THE HUMAN WORLD AND BECOME REIYA OOSHIMA. IT SEEMS LIKE A LOT HAS HAPPENED BETWEEN HER AND LOKI.

REIYA OOSHIMA: AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GIRL! SHE SEEMS TO HAVE A CRUSH ON LOKI. BUT THE NORSE GODDESS FREYA IS SEALED INSIDE HER!?

HEY THERE!! HOW'S EVERYONE DOING OUT THERE! I HOPE YOU'RE ALL DRINKING YOUR MILK EVERY DAY! THIS IS VOLUME FIVE OF MYSTICAL DETECTIVE LOKI!! THIS IS USUALLY LOKI'S PAGE WHERE HE EXPLAINS EVERYTHING, BUT TODAY HE SAID IT WOULD BE A PAIN, SO HE PUSHED ME INTO IT. ANYWAY, I'LL MAKE SURE HE PAYS ME A PERFORMANCE FEE, OR SOMETHING, ALL RIGHT? I'VE GOT A LITTLE BIT 'TIL IT'S TIME FOR ME TO GO TO MY PART-TIME JOB ANYWAY, SO LET ME JUST GIVE YOU A LITTLE RUN DOWN ON WHAT'S HAPPENED UP 'TIL NOW.

THE LITTLE BIRD DETECTIVE AGENCY IS THE PLACE WHERE KID LOKI WORKS, ALONG WITH THE YOUNG MAN YAMINO WHO HANGS AROUND AND HELPS HIM OUT, AND IT'S KIND OF A WEIRD LITTLE DETECTIVE AGENCY. LOKI'S PRETTY SMART AND YAMINO'S PRETTY GOOD AT COOKING, AND PLUS MY CLASSMATE, THE MYSTERY FAN MAYURA DAIDOUJI, PUSHED HERSELF ON THEM THERE AS AN ASSISTANT, SO THE CASES THAT SEEM TO POP UP ALL AROUND THEM USUALLY GET SOLVED. I COME BY TO HELP THEM OUT SOMETIMES, TOO.
(THEY DON'T PAY ME, THOUGH...)

THE TRUTH IS, THOUGH YOU GOTTA KEEP THIS QUIET, LOKI'S ACTUALLY A GOD. HE'S THE GOD OF MISCHIEF AND LIES IN THE NORSE PANTHEON, AND ON THE ALLFATHER ODIN'S ORDERS, HE'S COME TO EARTH TO CLEANSE HUMANS OF THE EVIL THAT INFESTS THEM. I GUESS HE'S LIKE A PURIPYING DETECTIVE. OH, AND I'M ALSO A GOD: THOR, TO BE SPECIFIC. LOKI AND I HAVE KNOWN EACH OTHER FOR A REALLY LONG TIME, YOU SEE. OH, AND JUST BETWEEN US, EVEN THOUGH LOKI'S IN A CHILD'S FORM RIGHT NOW, BACK THEN, HE WAS ACTUALLY A REALLY GOOD LOOKING GUY... THE KIND THAT MADE ALL THE LADIES UP IN ASGARD CRY. YOU PROBABLY COULD HAVE CALLED HIM PLAYBOY LOKI, I SUPPOSE... OW!! HEY LOKI, CUT IT OUT!!!

ANYWAY I GUESS I GOT A LITTLE OFF TOPIC. IN THE PAST, IT SEEMS LIKE LOKI'S LOST HIS LAST CHANCE, AND SO LATELY A LOT MORE GODS LIKE ME HAVE BEEN SHOWING UP IN THE HUMAN WORLD AROUND LOKI. THEY'VE GOT A LOT OF DIFFERENT GOALS IN COMING HERE, BUT I DON'T KNOW EVEN ONE OF THEM. THE GODDESS FREYA'S MEMORIES ARE LOCKED AWAY AND SHE'S LIVING THE LIFE OF AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GIRL, AND THAT BRAT HEIMDALL SEEMS TO BE THE ONLY ONE ACTUALLY TRYING TO KILL LOKI. ALSO THE THREE NORNS, GODDESSES OF FATE HAVE COME, AND I DON'T REALLY KNOW MUCH ABOUT THEM AT ALL! SO ANYWAY, IT'S GOTTEN REALLY BUSY AROUND LOKI RECENTLY... I GUESS HE KNOWS NOW THAT HE'S KIND OF ON THE BLACKLIST, DOESN'T HE?

OH, WOOPS! IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR ME TO GET OFF TO MY PART-TIME JOB. LATE PEOPLE GET THEIR WAGES CUT SO I REALLY GOTTA GO!! ANYWAY, IF YOU GUYS WORK SOMEWHERE WITH GOOD FOOD, YOU SHOULD TELL ME ABOUT IT, OKAY! ANYWAY, LATER! OH, LOKI? WHERE'D YOU GO? HEY, AREN'T YOU GONNA PAY ME FOR THIS? HEY, LOKI!! WHERE'D YOU GO!?

THE MYTHICAL DETECTIVE LOKI 5TH

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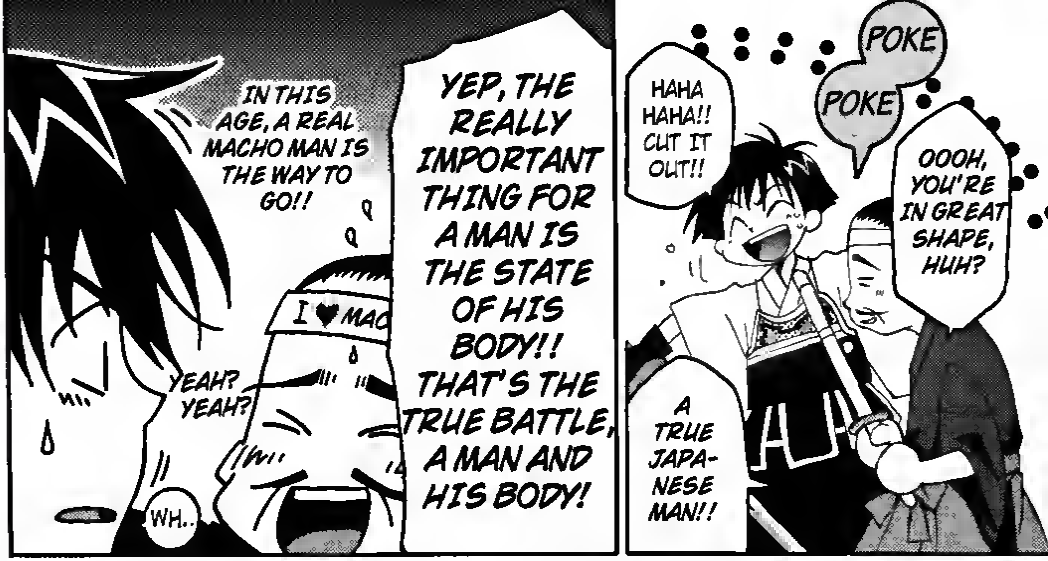
NIGHT 20
KENDO ADVICE

水止鏡明
ANOTHER 100 PRACTICE SWINGS!!
AND PUT SOME FIGHT INTO IT!!
ONEEEE
STRAIGHT FORWARD STRIKING SWING
TWOOO
THREEEEE
HEYY
WORKIN' HARD OUT THERE, 'EY, NARU-KUN!

HOW IS IT? HAVE YOU GOTTEN USED TO TEACHING THE KID'S CLASS AS AN ASSISTANT INSTRUCTOR?
YES SIR! I'M DOING MY PART TO FORGE THEM BIT BY BIT INTO SWORDSMEN, JUST LEAVE IT ALL TO ME!!
WAH HA HA HA HA HA
HIRASAKA
IT'S MASTER JOUMON!!
YOU'RE DOING JUST AS WELL AS I THOUGHT YOU WOULD, KIDDO!
YOU SHOULD TRY TO BE A BETTER EXAMPLE TO US!!
....
YOU JUST MAKE US DO FORWARD STROKES ALL THE TIME, I DON'T THINK IT'S ANY GOOD.
THE FUNDAMENTALS STAGE OF MASTERY
HEY, YOU, DON'T TALK LIKE YOU'RE SO GREAT!!
MAN, KIDS THESE DAYS...
NAHHH, IT'S GREAT TO SEE THEM SO EXCITED, ISN'T IT NARU-KUN?
POKE
POKE
OH NOOO!! RUN AWAY!!
WOOSH
FWSH
HEY, YOU TWO!!, STOP LISTENING IN ON GROWN-UP'S CONVERSATIONS!


IN THIS AGE, A REAL MACHO MAN IS THE WAY TO GO!!
YEP, THE REALLY IMPORTANT THING FOR A MAN IS THE STATE OF HIS BODY!! THAT'S THE TRUE BATTLE, A MAN AND HIS BODY!
I ♥ MAC
YEAH? YEAH?
WH..
HAHA HAHA!! CUT IT OUT!!
POKE
POKE
OOOH, YOU'RE IN GREAT SHAPE, HUH?
A TRUE JAPA-NESE MAN!!

BA-DUM
WHAA..!

...REALLY ARE THE BEST CHOICE FOR WHO TO LEAVE THE HIRA-SAKI DOJO TO...
AHH... NARU-KUN, YOU...

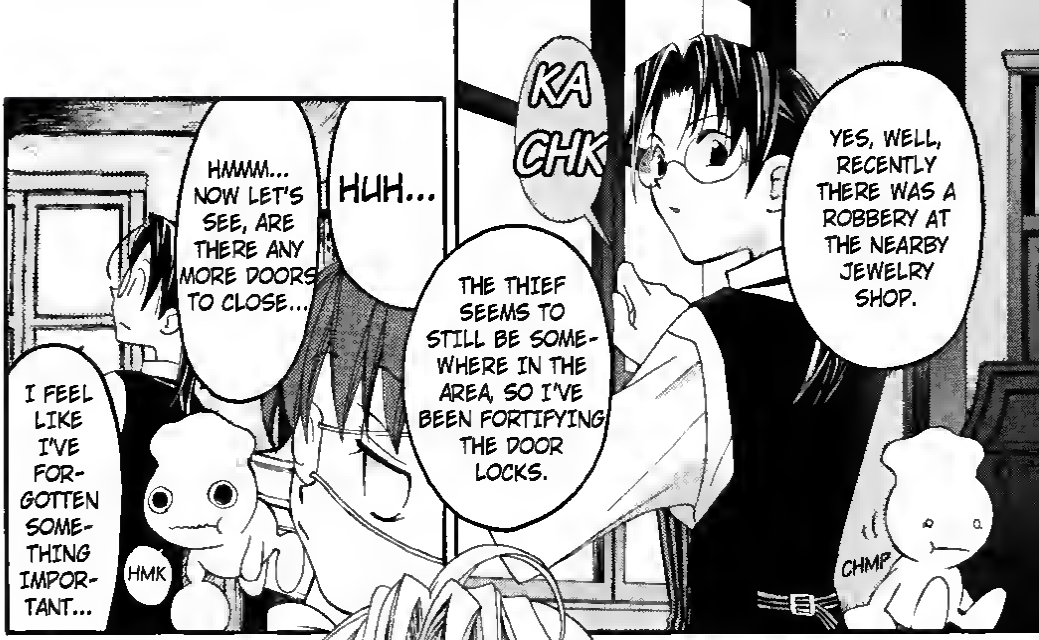
GRINNN
WHAT DO YOU THINK..?
HIRASAKA
ABOUT MY DAUGHTER, YAYOI...?

!?
WOOSH

IT'S ALMOST LUNCH TIME, EVEN...
PLOD
PLOD
PLOD
PLOD
EH, WELL, ANYWAY I WONDER WHERE YAYOI HAS GOTTEN TO...
PLOD
PLOD
I'M STILL ONLY A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT!
WHAT'RE YOU SAYING, OLD MAN!
BLUSH
SNAP
NO WAY, HE'S THE MOST UN-WORTHY GUY IN ALL JAPAN. YOU NEED TO WORK ON YOUR HUMILITY...
OH MAAN... REALLY? YOU HAVE A CRUSH ON YAYOI-SAN, NARU???
...
PFF!
PFF
DO SOO MORE STROKES!!

AH, YOU UNDER-STAND?
IS THAT A FUN-BURGER, YAMINO!?
WELL THEN, I GUESS THIS IS EVERYTHING...
HMMM HMM HMM
.....
KA CHIK
WOO
WOOSH WOOSHWOOSH!!
YAMINO'S POINTER FINGER VERIFICATION...!
DIS-CLAI-MER
HEYYY! YAMINO-KUN!!!!
YOU'RE GOIN' ALL STIR CRAZY FOR TAKIN' CARE OF HIM....
AH! YES YES, I'M COMING!!
GRIP
IS HE SICK THEN?? HE'S BEEN LAYIN' IN BED LIKE A FISH...
YES. THAT'S WHY I MUST BECOME HIS RIGHT HAND MAN. AND HIS LEFT HAND MAN AS WELL!
I'M HERE TO HELP YOU OUT, LOKI-SAMA, SO PLEASE EXCUSE MY RUDENESS FOR BARGING RIGHT IN!!
YES!! HOW ARE YOU FEELING?? JUST TELL ME WHAT YOU NEED AND I'LL JUMP TO IT RIGHT AWAY!!
BANG

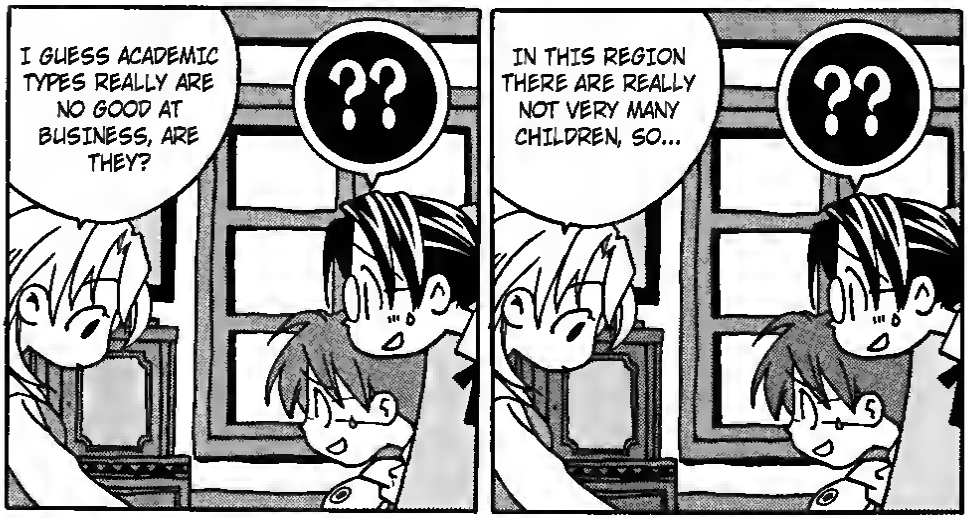
OW... OW...
I THINK THE EYEPATCH MAY BE SLIPPING? I WONDER IF IT'S ALL RIGHT...
HMMM... JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE, THEN... HM HM...
STILL.... I WONDER WHAT'S WRONG... WHY HAS YOUR RIGHT EYE SUDDENLY BEGUN TO HURT, I WONDER. IS IT A STY, DO YOU THINK?
.....
ANYWAY, WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO LATELY, YAMINO-KUN?


KA CHK
YES, WELL, RECENTLY THERE WAS A ROBBERY AT THE NEARBY JEWELRY SHOP.
THE THIEF SEEMS TO STILL BE SOMEWHERE IN THE AREA, SO I'VE BEEN FORTIFYING THE DOOR LOCKS.
CHMP
HUH...
HMMM... NOW LET'S SEE, ARE THERE ANY MORE DOORS TO CLOSE...
I FEEL LIKE I'VE FORGOTTEN SOMETHING IMPORTANT...
HMK

HELLO, MY NAME IS YAYOI HIRASAKA!
MAY I PLEASE HIRE YOU FOR SOME CONSULTING?

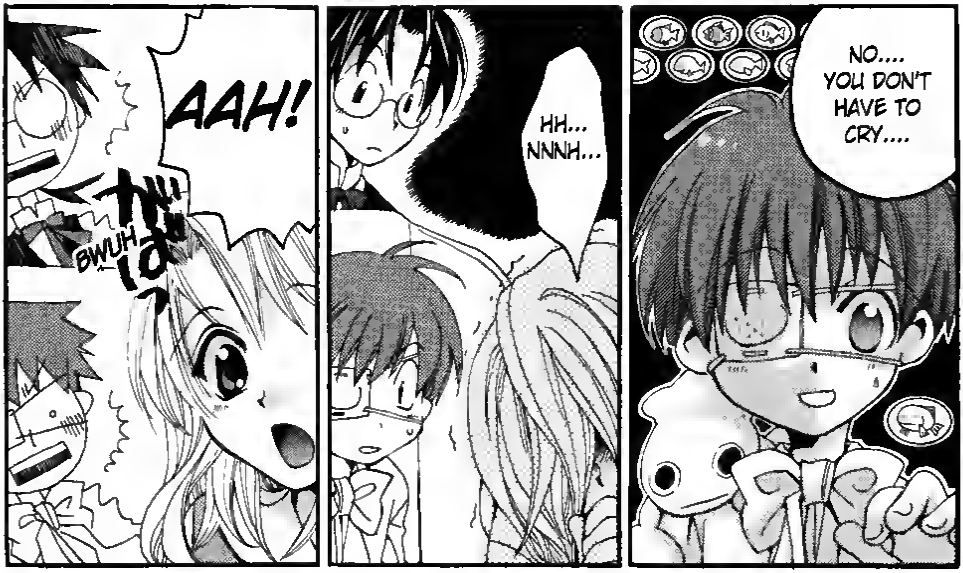
A.... A CUSTOMER...??
HUU!
AH! I FORGOT THE FRONT DOOR!
PAFF

WHAT SHALL WE DO? TELL HER THAT YOU'RE NOT FEELING WELL AND SEND HER HOME?
NO, MY CONDITION IS A BIT BETTER, LET'S HEAR HER OUT.
A CUTE GIRL CAN SWEEP ALL OF MY SORROWS AWAY, YOU KNOW~
WELL THEN, YAYOI-CHAN. WHAT SEEMS TO BE THE PROBLEM?
OH WELL, YOU SEE, IT'S ABOUT THE CRAM SCHOOL NEXT DOOR...
AHHH... WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THEM?
IT'S NOT VERY PROFITABLE, YOU SEE....


IN THIS REGION THERE ARE REALLY NOT VERY MANY CHILDREN, SO...
??
I GUESS ACADEMIC TYPES REALLY ARE NO GOOD AT BUSINESS, ARE THEY?
??

UH...
EXCUSE ME....

FWSH
FWSH
BUT I...!
WHAAT!? THIS ISN'T A CONSULTING FIRM!?
WHAT'S A DE-TECTIVE AGENCY!?
OH HERE'S THE ADDRESS... IT'S THE NEXT TOWN OVER...
AH... ....
S.... SORRY....
I'M ALWAYS LIKE THIS...


AAH!
BWUH
がば
HH... NNNH...
NO.... YOU DON'T HAVE TO CRY....

NARU-GAMI!?
OH, YOU KNOW HIM? HE TEACHES KENDO TO THE KIDS IN OUR NEIGH-BORHOOD...!

I'M SO TERRIBLE... I WAS SUP-POSED TO MAKE LUNCH TODAY...
NARUGAMI-SAN MUST BE SO HUNGRY WAITING FOR IT...

WHA!?
OH, NARUGAMI-SAN, I'M SO SORRY, I BOUGHT THAT AT A CONVENIENCE STORE... I HAD NO TIME TO COOK!

YOUR COOKING REALLY IS TOP NOTCH, YAYOI-SAN!
OHH YUM!!
UHHH.... WELL, YOUR CHOICE OF MEAL WAS REALLY GOOD, AT LEAST!!
THAT WAS THE ONLY ONE LEFT...

HUH?
HAHAHA YOU'RE SO DESPERATE.

HEH HEH HEH
CRUNCH

NNH... I DON'T REALLY KNOW...
WHAT'S UP WITH YOUR RIGHT EYE, LOKI?
TURN
OH, I'LL COME HELP!
OKAY, I HAVE TO GO MAKE TEA FOR THE KIDS NOW.
I DON'T SEE! WHAT THAT HAS TO DO WITH SCOU-TING
A 100 YEN COIN...
NOD NOD
AH, THAT IS A STORY OF A LONG AGO AND FAR AWAY TIME, WHEN I FOUND A 100 YEN COIN....
HMPH, HOW RUDE YOU ARE. I WAS PERSON-ALLY SCOUTED BY THE MASTER AT THIS DOJO, MASTER JOUMON.
WHERE ??
EH HEH
ANYWAY... DO YOU EVEN KNOW HOW TO TEACH KENDO??
BSH
TMP TMP TMP TMP
I SAW IT FIRST !!
OH! LUCKY!!
!?
YOU SEE, SOMEONE ELSE WAS ABOUT TO PICK UP THE 100 YEN COIN BEFORE ME...

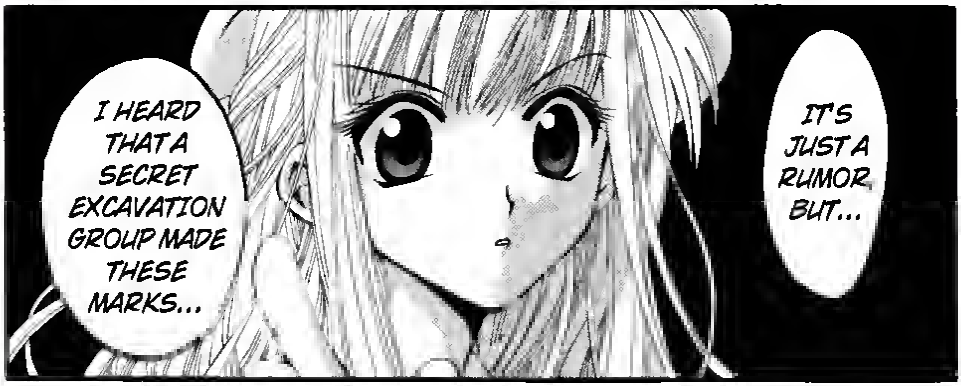
WHAT AMAZING SWORD HANDLING!!
I HAVE CAPTURED THE VICTORY!!
NOW LET'S TAKE THAT TO THE POLICE.
YOINK
OKAY...??
AND THE REST IS HISTORY.
CLAP CLAP
THERE IS SOMEONE IN THE BACK, IN THE VACANT LOT BY THE CLIFF, YOU SEE....
LET US ASK LOKI-SAMA.
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
BAM!
YES WHAT COULD BE THE MATTER, YAYOI-SAN!!?

!
YEAHHH, THAT GUY'S PRETTY SKETCHY....
AH, NARU-KAMI-KUN, WAI-!!
THUMP
THUMP
HEY YOU! WHAT'RE YOU DOING OVER THERE??
WHACK

D-
D-
D-
D-
D-DAI-DOU-JI!?
OWWW!!
HERE, OF ALL PLACES!?
IT'S AN AR-CHAEO-LOGICAL DIG!! ♡
WELL DUH!!
PAMF
S-SORRY!!
BUT...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, MAYURA...?
AS USUAL, I DON'T GET YOU AT ALL....

RIGHT HERE, AND...
OVER THERE TOO!
SO WHAT ARE THEY?

HEHEHE THIS IS THE PERFECT PLACE FOR IT, YOU SEE!
LOOK AT THESE X MARKS!
YOU TRY TO STOP HER....
STOP HER, LOKI...


I HEARD THAT A SECRET EXCAVATION GROUP MADE THESE MARKS...
IT'S JUST A RUMOR, BUT...

SHE'S A LITTLE BIT SUSPICIOUS, BUT I THINK EVEN IF YOU IGNORE HER, SHE WON'T DO ANY HARM...
PRO-BABLY.
!?

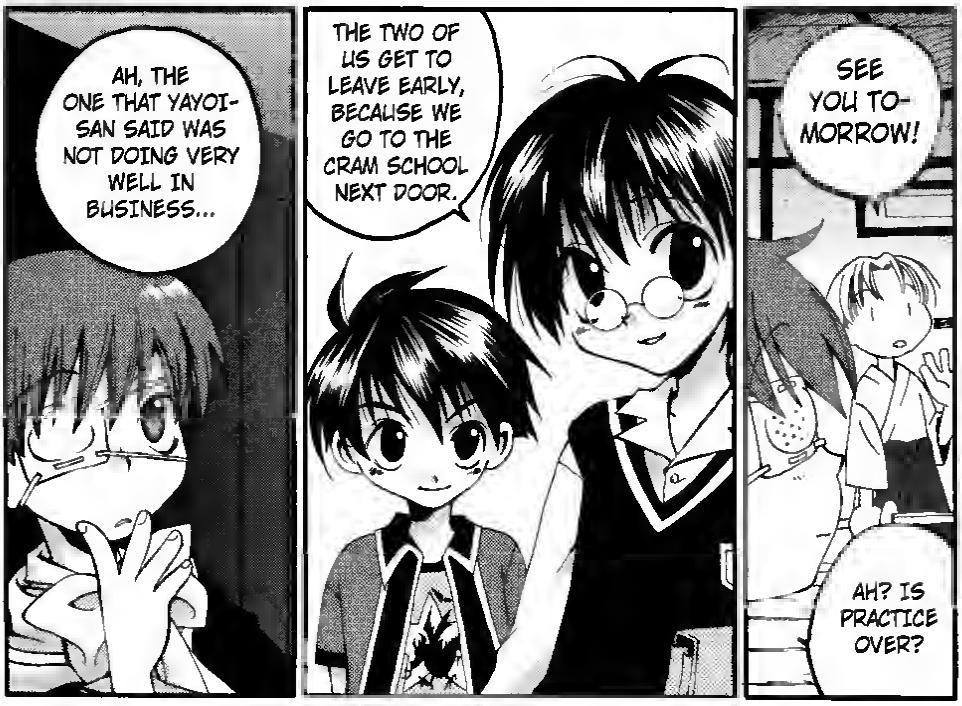
OH MY?
IS THIS A FRIEND OF YOURS?
MAYU-RA-SAN!

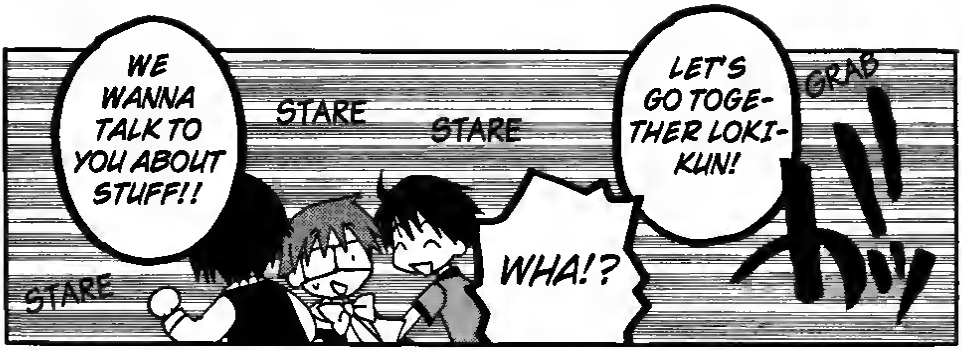
AN ARCHAEO-LOGICAL DIG...
FIRED UP IN THE AFTER-NOON!
OH!
NARUGAMI-SAN... YOUR LUNCH BREAK IS JUST ABOUT OVER....
OKAYY
OH, REALLY? WELL, THEN, PLEASE DO THE BEST YOU CAN, MISS!
UH... REALLY..

YOU'RE NOT VERY DIGNIFIED, ARE YOU, NARUKAMI-KUN?
I CAN'T BELIEVE KIDS THESE DAYS.....
WOO HOO
LINE UP!!

I MEAN IN KENDO...
THERE IS THE SAYING, "BEGIN AND END WITH A BOW."
DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT "BOW" MEANS IN THIS SITUATION?
IT MEANS THAT YOU MUST SHOW YOUR FEELINGS TO THOSE AROUND YOU
THAT YOU MUST SHOW YOUR MOTHER, FATHER, TEACHERS AND FRIENDS THAT YOU TREASURE THEIR FEELINGS...
YOU MUST BECOME A KIND PERSON AS WELL AS A SMART PERSON!!
HEY! HEY! LOKI....
YEAHHH!
WHA- WHY ARE YOU LISTENING TO HIM??

MY SHIKI-GAMI STILL HASN'T COME BACK HOME YET FROM LAST TIME...
IF THE NORNS WERE FOLLOWING HIS ORDERS, THEN MAYBE...
ODIN HAS ALSO BEEN FOOLED BY HEIMDALL'S SEDUCTIVE REASON-ING, MAYBE...
PAMF
BASH
BASH


AH, THE ONE THAT YAYOI-SAN SAID WAS NOT DOING VERY WELL IN BUSINESS...
THE TWO OF US GET TO LEAVE EARLY, BECAUSE WE GO TO THE CRAM SCHOOL NEXT DOOR.
SEE YOU TO-MORROW!
AH? IS PRACTICE OVER?


WE WANNA TALK TO YOU ABOUT STUFF!!
STARE
STARE
STARE
WHA!?
LET'S GO TOGE-THER LOKI-KUN!
GRAB

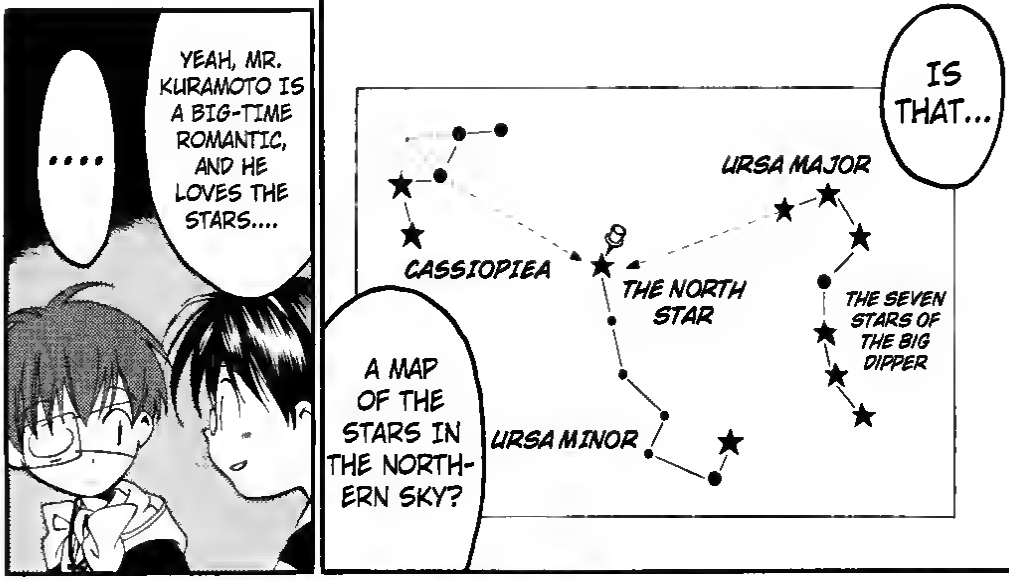
KURAMOTO CRAM SCHOOL
ALWAYS OPEN FOR NEW STUDENTS!!

YOU'RE A DETECTIVE, RIGHT? THAT'S SO COOL!!!
IT'S BIG TALK AROUND HERE, THAT THERE'S A KID DETEC-TIVE!
REALLY?

WHAT DO THESE KIDS HAVE TO TALK TO ME ABOUT!?
TALK..?
BA DUM
BA DUM
BA DUM
BA DUM
BA DUM
BA DUM
BA DUM
BA DUM

MAN, THOUGH, MR. KURAMOTO IS SUPER LATE...
MAYBE HE'S HANGING OUT WITH YAYOI-SAN FROM NEXT DOOR AGAIN?

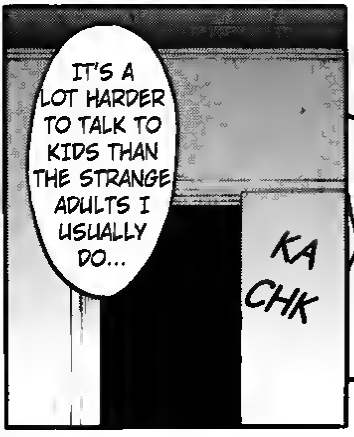
HELP...
OH MAN, I BET YOU GOT IT IN A HUGE BATTLE WITH A THIEF, YEAH?
WHY'RE YOU WEARING AN EYE-PATCH?


YEAH, MR. KURAMOTO IS A BIG-TIME ROMANTIC, AND HE LOVES THE STARS....
....
IS THAT...
URSA MAJOR
CASSIOPIEA
THE NORTH STAR
THE SEVEN STARS OF THE BIG DIPPER
URSA MINOR
A MAP OF THE STARS IN THE NORTH-ERN SKY?

COME HANG OUT WITH US AGAIN!!
AW JEEZ, I GUESS YOU GOTTA GO THEN...
I'VE GOT TO MEET WITH THE THIEF OF 889 FACES! HE SENT ME A MESSAGE TO TRY TO CATCH HIM AT A CERTAIN TIME!

AHHH! I JUST REMEM-BERED, I'VE GOT ANOTHER APPOINT-MENT!!

PK

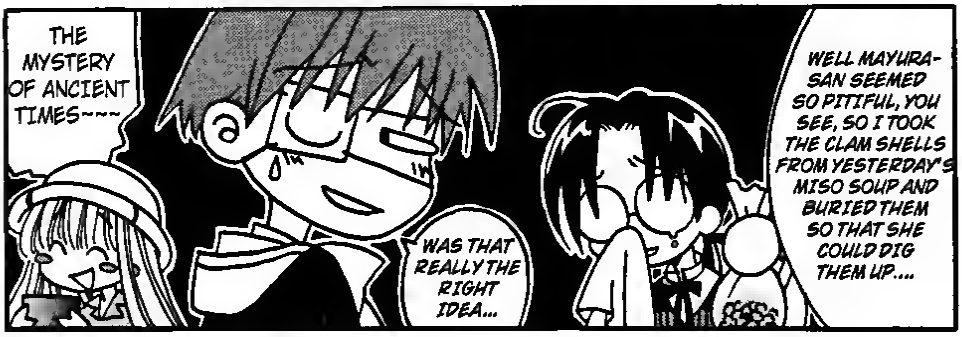

IT'S A LOT HARDER TO TALK TO KIDS THAN THE STRANGE ADULTS I USUALLY DO...
KA CHK

WHAAAT!?
AW, COME ON! PLAY WITH US SOME MORE!!

HERE'S YOUR LUNCH!! DO YOUR BEST, KURAMOTO-SAN.
THANK YOU, YAYOI-SAN....
I'M SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WORRY SO MUCH...
OH, MY WHATEVER DO YOU MEAN?
ALL OF THAT ENDS TONIGHT, YOU SEE.
I WON'T BE WORRYING YOU ANY LONGER.
WHY DO YOU SAY THAT?
WELL, TOMORROW'S YOUR BIRTHDAY.....
?

...I UNDER-STAND NOW.
THIS IS WHAT THAT SCENE MEANS...!!
...OF COURSE NOT....
LOKI-KUN! DID YOU COME TO HELP ME OUT?
!
HUH ?
BUT LOOK! I MADE A GREAT DISCOVERY!! CHECK IT OUT! LOOK, SEASHELLS!

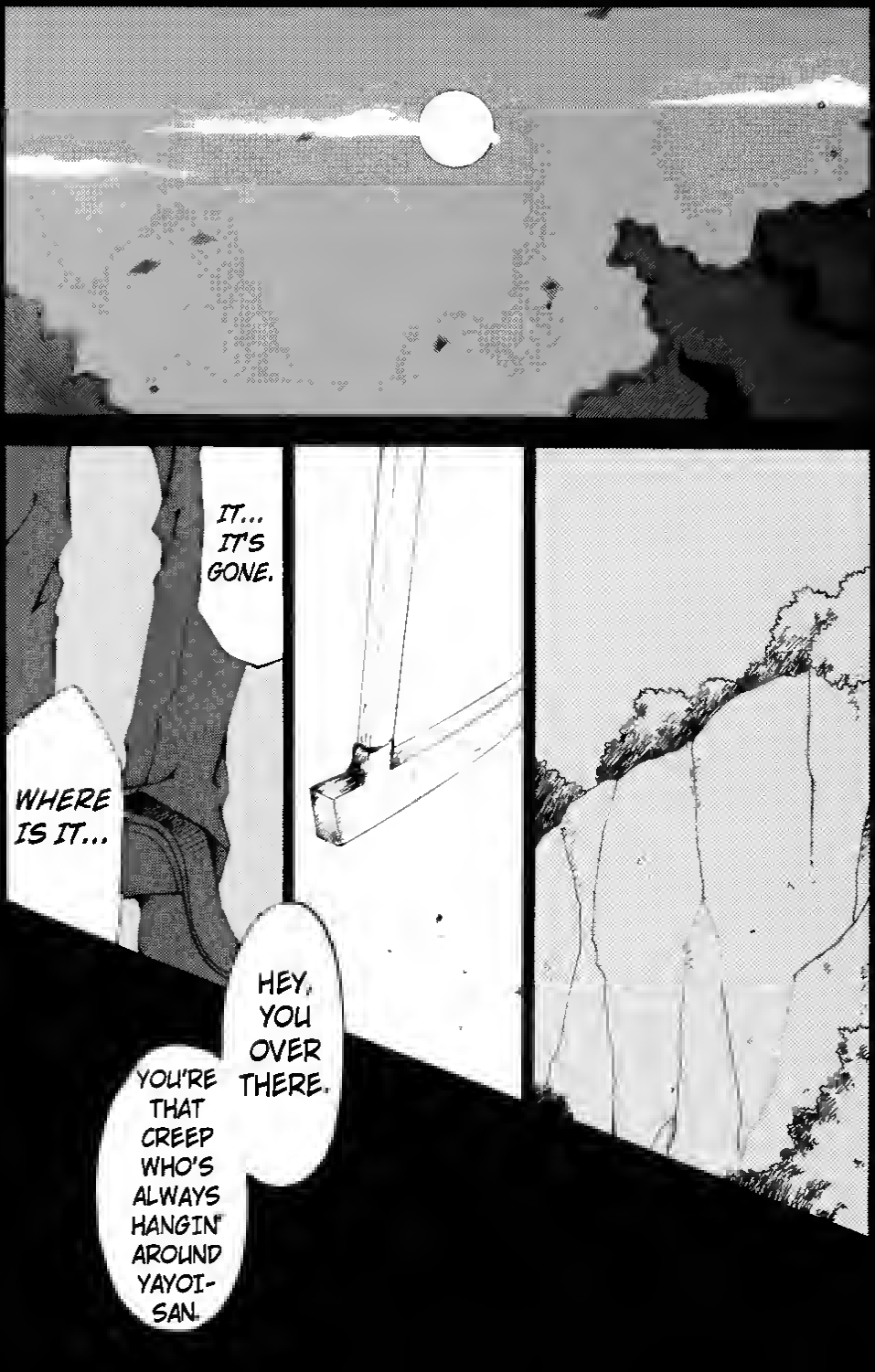
AH, LOKI-SAMA!
Y-YAMINO-KUN, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
RUSTLE RUSTLE
ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THAT...
THIS MUST HAVE BEEN A SHELL HEAP IN THE PAST!!!
NO WAY!
EEEE!


THE MYSTERY OF ANCIENT TIMES~~~
WAS THAT REALLY THE RIGHT IDEA...
WELL MAYURA-SAN SEEMED SO PITIFUL, YOU SEE, SO I TOOK THE CLAM SHELLS FROM YESTERDAY'S MISO SOUP AND BURIED THEM SO THAT SHE COULD DIG THEM UP....

BUT! JUST A BIT MORE!!
AH... WELL, IT'S GETTING DARK, SO WE OUGHT TO GO HOME.
NO!

AH, I KNEW YOU'D BE HERE, LOKI. PRACTICE IS OVER NOW!

HEY, NARUKAMI-KUN... IS KENDO CLASS FUN?
YEAH! OF COURSE IT IS!!
!!
...IS THAT BECAUSE YAYOI-SAN IS THERE?
HMM.. WELL.... THAT'S PART OF IT...
SHE'S A GOOD KID...
....
I NEED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT YAYOI-SAN A LITTLE BIT...


IT... IT'S GONE.
WHERE IS IT...
HEY, YOU OVER THERE.
YOU'RE THAT CREEP WHO'S ALWAYS HANGIN' AROUND YAYOI-SAN.

I AM A GUARDIAN OF JUSTICE.
I'VE COME TO BRING JUDGMENT UPON YOU.
I'M KIND OF BUSY. CAN YOU DO THAT LATER?
DUNN

BAM
YOU PIECE OF....!
!?
WHAT IS THIS!? IT'S UNTRAINED, BUT YOU HAVE SOME ABILITY...?
WHO ARE YOU!?
NO MATTER, THAT'S AS FAR AS YOU GO!

CRACK
TMP
YOU NEED MORE TRAIN-ING!

NARUKAMI-KUN, GO CALL AN AMBU-LANCE!!
OH NO!! DID I.. DID I GO TOO FAR!?
NO WAY..!!

FWUMP
WHOA, HEY, GET UP.... HEY.
HUH?

OH YEAH! YEAH I SHOULD DO THAT!

WELL THEN... GET UP, WON'T YOU?
KURA-MOTO-SAN.

YOU'RE THAT... THE LOKI-KUN THAT MY STUDENTS WERE TALKING ABOUT, AREN'T YOU?
OH... THE EVIL INSIDE HIM IS FADING AWAY...
I MADE A HUGE FIND... BURIED TREASURE!
I WAS QUITE SHOCKED WHEN I DUG AT THE NORTH STAR POINT...
DID YOU DIG IT UP, THEN?
WELL, YES.
YOU WERE THE CULPRIT OF THE JEWELRY STORE ROBBERY, WEREN'T YOU KURAMOTO-SAN?

YOU SEE, I HAVE THIS EYEPATCH ON, RIGHT?

IN HUMANS, THE DISTANCE BETWEEN THE RIGHT AND LEFT EYE CREATES A VERY SMALL DIFFERENCE IN WHAT THE EYE ACTUALLY SEES, WHICH, WHEN THE BRAIN INTEGRATES THE TWO IMAGES, ALLOWS US TO SEE IN THREE DIMENSIONS. WHEN ONE EYE IS COVERED, IT BECOMES MUCH EASIER TO SEE ON A FLAT PLANE.

WITH ONE EYE COVERED, I COULD SEE THE CLIFF AS A FLAT PLANE.

I FIGURED OUT THAT THE X MARKS ON THIS CLIFF CORRESPONDED TO THE MAP OF THE CONSTELLATIONS IN THE NORTH SKY.

IS THAT...

URSA MAJOR

CASSIOPEIA

THE NORTH STAR

THE SEVEN STARS OF THE BIG DIPPER

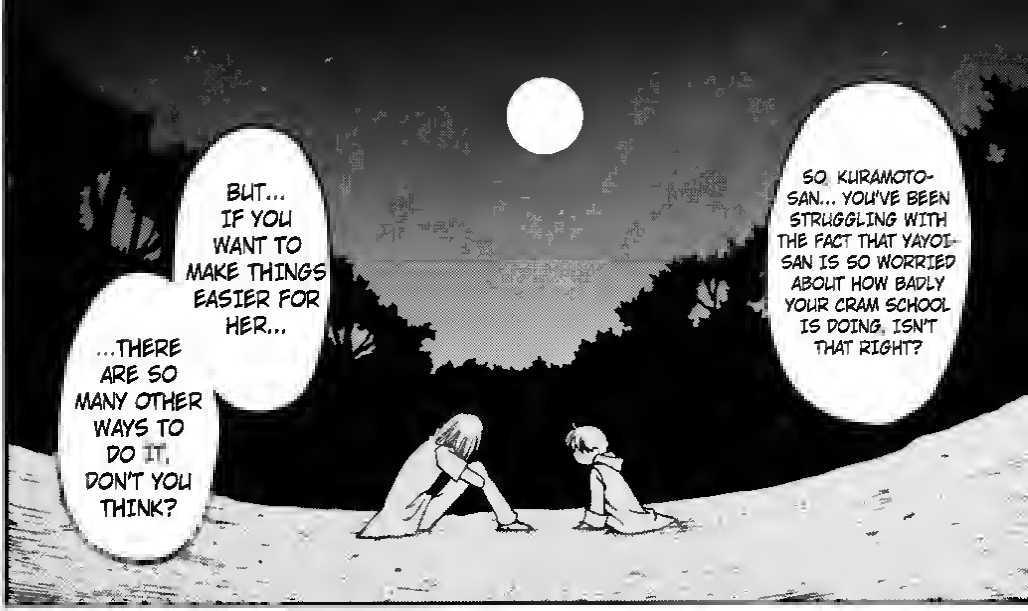
URSA MINOR

A MAP OF THE STARS IN THE NORTHERN SKY?

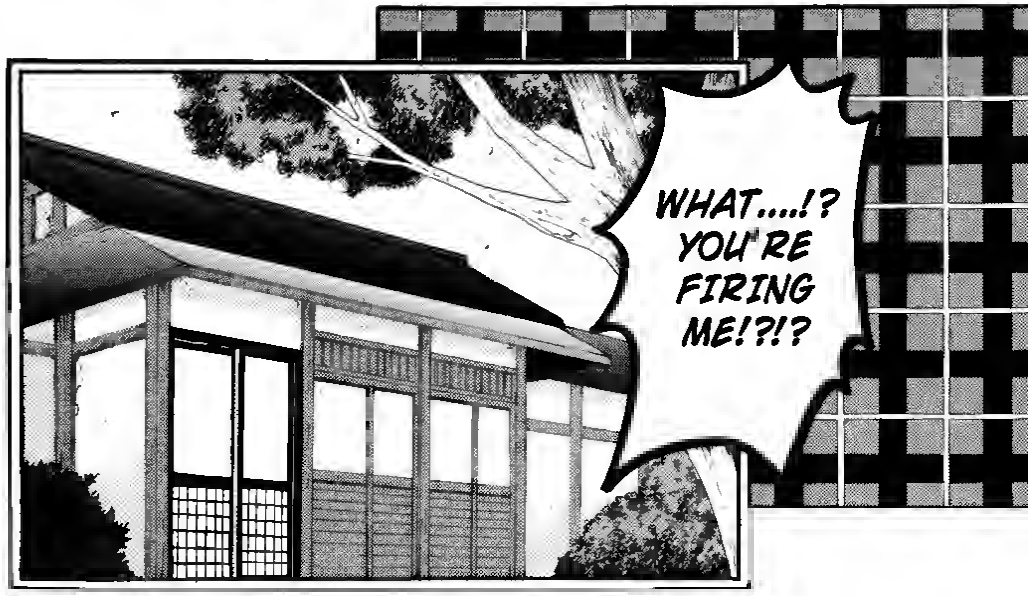
IN YOUR CRAM SCHOOL, YOU HAVE A CHART OF THE STARS IN THE NORTHERN SKY HUNG UP ON THE WALL, AND THERE IS A PIN STUCK ON THE NORTH STAR ON THAT CHART.

THOUGH THE X MARKS ON THE CLIFF FACE LOOK LIKE THE STARS ON THE CHART, THE NORTH STAR ISN'T MARKED.

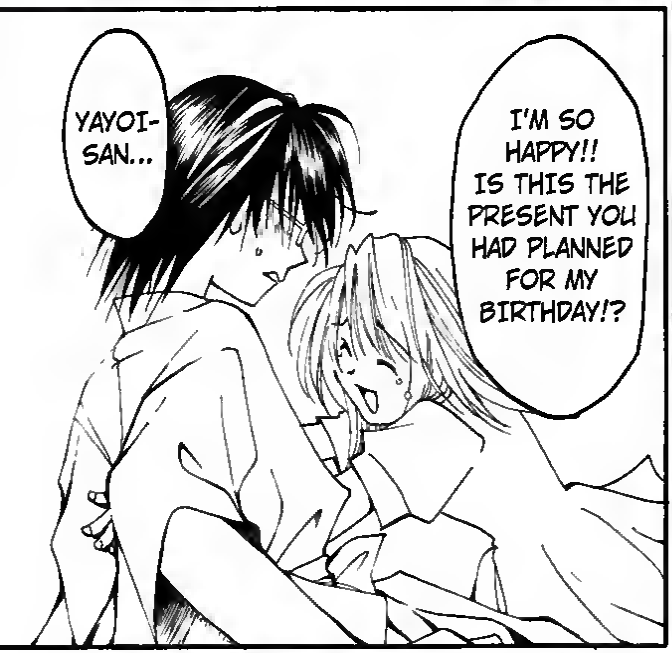
THAT'S WHY I THOUGHT THERE MIGHT BE SOMETHING THERE.

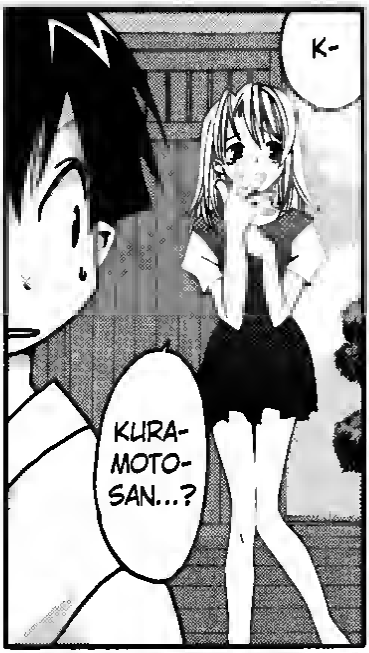

SO, KURAMOTO-SAN... YOU'VE BEEN STRUGGLING WITH THE FACT THAT YAYOI-SAN IS SO WORRIED ABOUT HOW BADLY YOUR CRAM SCHOOL IS DOING, ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
BUT... IF YOU WANT TO MAKE THINGS EASIER FOR HER...
...THERE ARE SO MANY OTHER WAYS TO DO IT, DON'T YOU THINK?

YOU REALLY THINK SO...
YEAH I DO!


WHAT....!? YOU'RE FIRING ME!?!?

HIRASAKA
SORRY, EXCUSE ME....
AW, SORRY, NARU-KUN...THE TEACHER AT THE CRAM SCHOOL NEXT DOOR WANTS TO BECOME MY DISCIPLE NOW, SO....

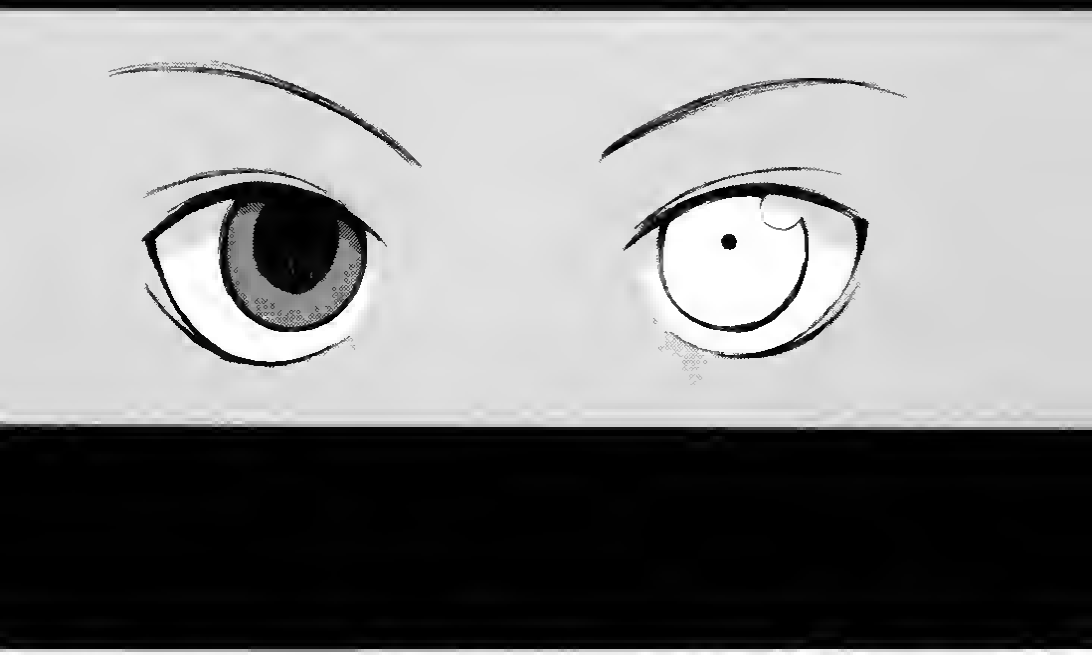

YAYOI-SAN...
I'M SO HAPPY!! IS THIS THE PRESENT YOU HAD PLANNED FOR MY BIRTHDAY!?

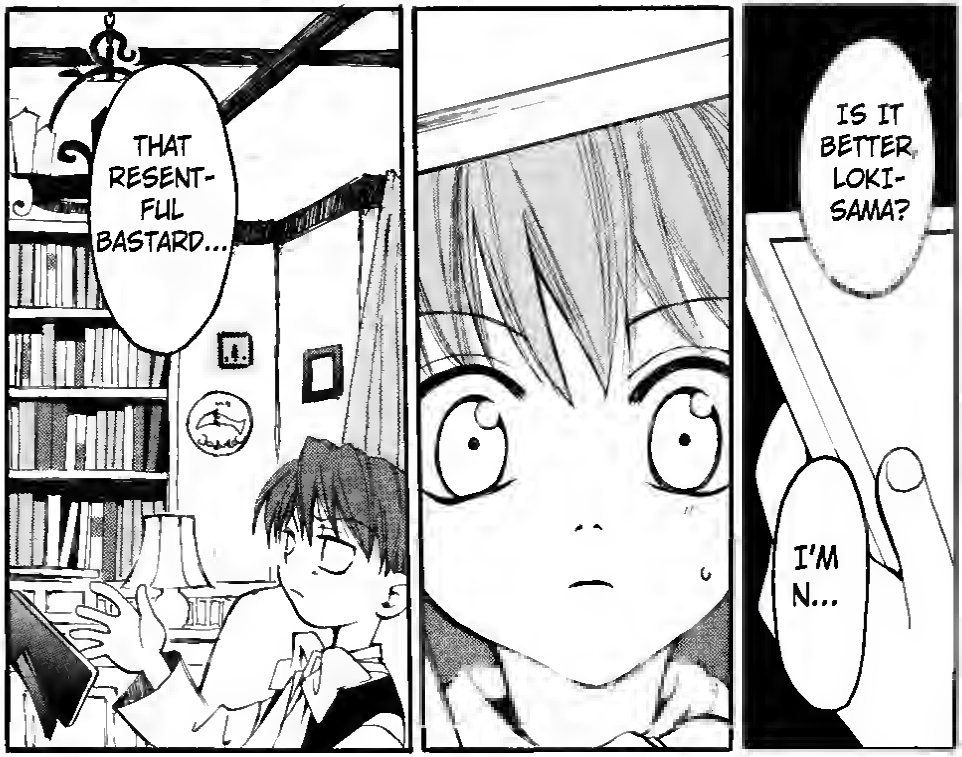

K-
KURA-MOTO-SAN...?

TCH...

"BEGIN WITH A BOW, END WITH A BOW," RIGHT!?
NOT VERY MANLY, NARU!!
AW... AW MANN..!

WELL, GOOD LUCK AND WORK HARD, KURAMOTO-SAN!
WELL, NOW, THIS IS QUITE STRANGE...
ABOUT THAT RECENT JEWELRY STORE ROBBERY...
IT SEEMS THAT THIS MORNING, ALL THE STOLEN ITEMS WERE RETURNED TO THE SHOP!
HUHH... WELL, THAT'S GOOD THEN.
AND MY EYE HAS FINALLY STOPPED HURTING, MAYBE IT'S BETTER NOW...
OHHH! HOW WONDERFUL!!




THAT RESENTFUL BASTARD...
IS IT BETTER LOKI-SAMA?
I'M N...

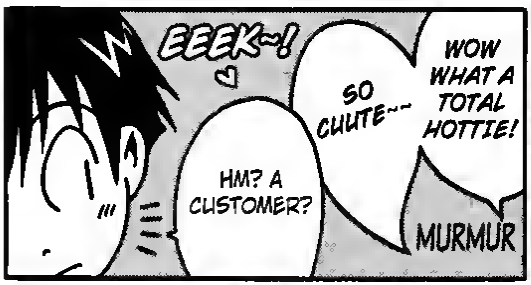
SO IT MEANS THAT THE PEOPLE WHO LIVED HERE A LONG TIME AGO TOTALLY KNEW HOW TO MAKE MISO SOUP!!
BRILLIANT DETECTIVE WORK!!
WHEN I INVESTIGATED THE SHELLS MORE, I FOUND THAT THEY SMELLED LIKE MISO SOUP!!
GEH!
LOKI-KUN!! I'VE MADE AN AMAZING DISCOVERY!!!
DNK
DNK
!!
I'LL CALL IT "MAYURA'S MISO RUINS!!"
OHH.... I MADE HER EVEN MORE PITIFUL...
DO YOU WANNA COME?
I'M GOING TO THE GEOGRAPHICAL CENTER NOW!
YAMINO-KUN... WHAT HAVE YOU DONE...

NIGHT 21 THE FLOWER OF DREAMS

ME...?
I'M...
WOW, MA'AM YOU ARE AN INCREDIBLE BEAUTY!! I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU AROUND HERE BEFORE, WHO ARE YOU?
COIN
HM HM HM...
THE HUMAN REALM IS SOMEWHAT ENTERTAINING, ISN'T IT...
THE GODDESS OF LOVE AND FERTILITY, FREYA!
YOU DON'T KNOW ME?
REMEMBER THAT NAME!
O... OKAY...

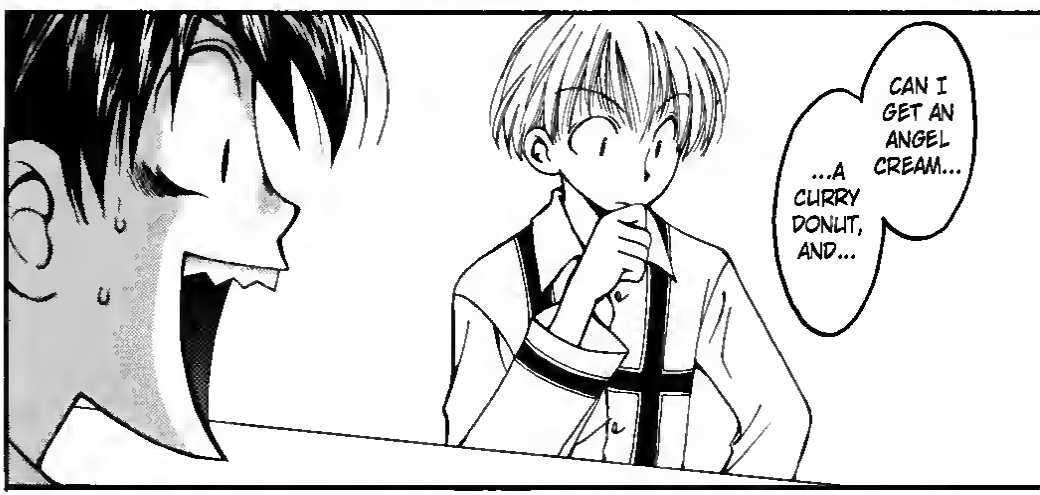
AHHH... WHAT A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP.
OH YAMINO-KUN!!
WAIT, THAT'S RIGHT. YAMINO-KUN'S OUT SHOPPING WITH MAYURA TODAY...
!?
AHHHHHHH
WH...

SIGH.... EVERY DAY IT'S WORK, WORK, WORK....
I'M GETTING SO TIRED OF EATING DONUTS...


EEEK~!
HM? A CUSTOMER?
SO CUUTE~~
WOW WHAT A TOTAL HOTTIE!
MURMUR

AND I'M SUPPOSED TO BE A GOD HERE, THOR!! WHY ME?
I LOVE
DONUTS

TODAY THERE'S A DISCOUNT FOR BUYING THREE AT A TIME...
SMILE
WELCOME TO OUR SHOP!!
I LOVE
DONUTS


CAN I GET AN ANGEL CREAM...
...A CURRY DONUT, AND...

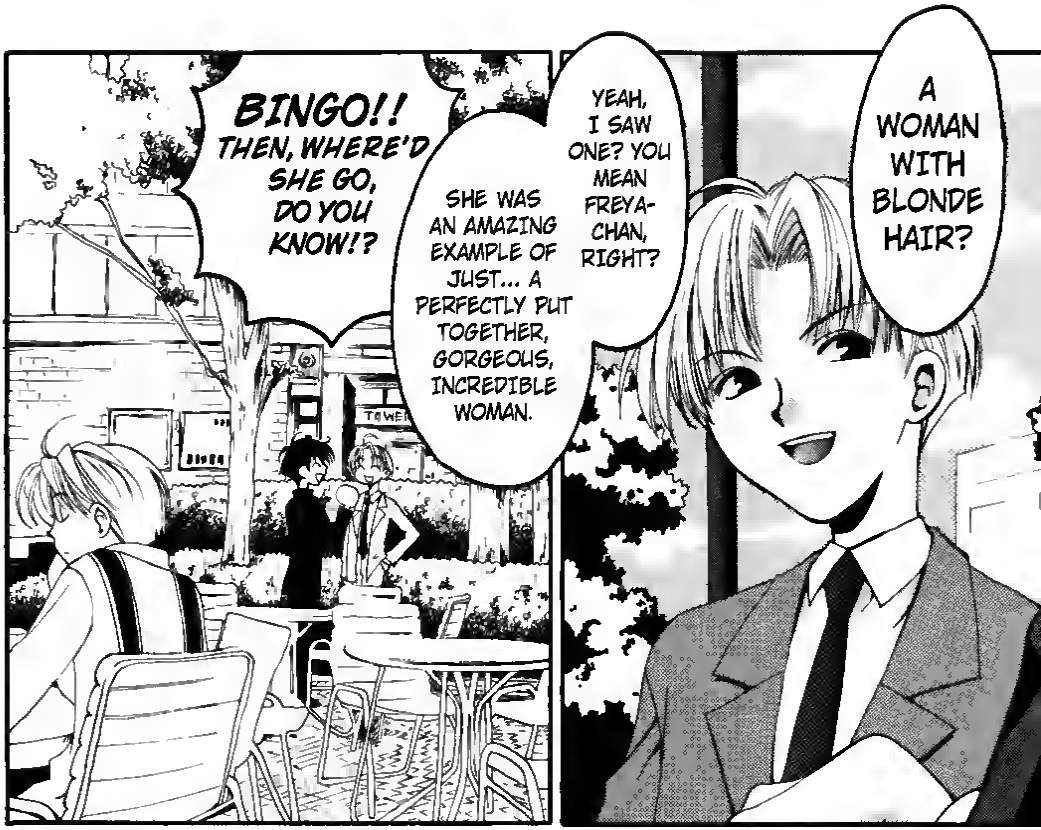
PSHHH
HOW'S YOUR NEW JOB...?
LOKI !?
LOVE
Donut
HEYYY NARU-KAMI-KUN! WORKING HARD I SEE
GRIN
EEEEE
THIS ISN'T THE TIME FOR THAT!!
I'M HUNGRY AND I'M TIRED OF DONUTS, THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE, ALL RIGHT!?
YEAH OK, YEAH SO, MAKE A DIVIDER WITH THE CABBAGE!
HOW'D YOU GET BACK TO YOUR OLD FORM ALL OF A SUDDEN!?
THE WHOLE THING STINKS, IF YOU ASK ME....
I DON'T KNOW EI-THER. I JUST WOKE UP FROM A NAP LIKE THIS.
LICK
OOH, AH HOT!
IS THIS REALLY HOW YOU EAT THIS STUFF?
NO, YOU... YOU COOK IT WITH THE SPATULA, AND THEN PUT THIS SAUCE ON...
OHHH, I SEE...
PSHH
DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS ON RETURN-ING TO YOUR FORMER GLORY? LOKI-SAMA.
IS IT BURNED OR NOT?
NOM NOM

PUUUNYEE!
PUNYAO!
THE NORN VERDANDI!!
I WANNA SEE GROWN-UP LOKI-SAMAAA!
GRR
EVEN THOUGH SKULD WOULD VERY MUCH HAVE LIKED TO COME HERE HERSELF~
I CAME TO RETURN THIS LITTLE ONE TO YOU.
AHH, GOOD BOY. I MISSED YOU, ETCHAN!
LOKI-TAN!
PUNYARA
AH!
BOMF
JUST HAVE A SEAT.
HEY, YOU GET OUT OF THE WAY!!
HERE THIS IS THE CORN MIX.
PSH
.....
SO THIS WAS THE NORNS' HANDI-WORK, THEN?

WHAT DO YOU THREE WANT FROM ME?
WE MERELY WANT YOU TO CONTINUE YOUR WORK OF VANQUISHING EVIL.
BUT ODIN HAS TURNED HIS BACK ON ME, HASN'T HE? AND SINCE I'VE FINALLY RETURNED TO MY TRUE FORM, AND I CAN NOW FREELY USE MY MAGIC...
...I WAS THINKING THAT NARUKAMI-KUN AND I COULD RETURN TO ASGARD AND CONFRONT ODIN FACE TO FACE...
AH, THAT WILL NOT WORK. THIS IS ONLY A TEMPORARY RESTORATION, YOU SEE.
FFFFFFFFFHH
I-IS THAT SO??
ALL RIGHT!! GOING HOME~~ ♡
BADASS, LOKI!!
WELL, YOU SEE, EVERY TIME YOU DRAW THE EVIL OUT OF A HUMAN, IT RESTORES SOME OF YOUR OWN MAGICAL POWER....
TO FULLY RETURN TO YOUR FORMER POWER, YOU MUST CONTINUE TO DO IT.

...OH, IN THAT CASE...
...I MUST HAVE TRULY BEEN REJECTED.
I WONDER IF ODIN...
...HAS COME TO HATE ME SO MUCH AS ALL THAT...
WHAT'D YOU EVEN DO BEFORE YOU GOT THROWN DOWN HERE ANYWAY?
AW, COME ON, THAT OLD MAN'S PRETTY HARD TO PISS OFF, ISN'T HE?
....
WHA!?
BY THE WAY, HAVE YOU MET WITH FREYA-SAMA YET, LOKI-SAMA?
OH RIGHT, GOD OF MIS-CHIEF
SNEER
OH... THIS AND THAT...

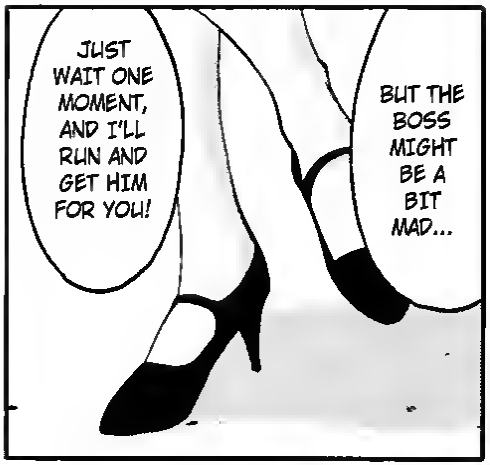
HOW STRANGE... I WAS SURE SHE WOULD COME HERE SEARCHING FOR YOU...
W-WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY THAT IN THE FIRST PLACE!?
ISN'T IT DANGER-OUS FOR HER TO BE OUT THERE RUNNING FREE!?
HMM? I'M NOT WORRIED! I'LL JUST KEEP A LOOK OUT FOR HER!
HO HO HO HO
HEY... LOKI....
BY WHICH SHE MEANS... IT'S OUR JOB TO LOOK FOR HER.
THAT'S HOW THOSE GUYS DO THINGS...
WHERE DO WE EVEN START, LOKI?
IT'S KOU-CHAN!


A WOMAN WITH BLONDE HAIR?
YEAH, I SAW ONE? YOU MEAN FREYA-CHAN, RIGHT?
SHE WAS AN AMAZING EXAMPLE OF JUST... A PERFECTLY PUT TOGETHER, GORGEOUS, INCREDIBLE WOMAN.
BINGO!! THEN, WHERE'D SHE GO, DO YOU KNOW!?
SHE SEEMED LIKE SHE WAS LOOKING FOR SOMEBODY. BUT THEN A SHADY-LOOKING GUY IN A BLACK SUIT CALLED OUT TO HER AND SHE WENT OFF SOMEWHERE.
A BLACK SUIT...?
POP
WHERE WAS SHE WHEN HE CALLED HER?
NEAR THE DOOR OF THE ARCADE...
LET'S GO OVER THERE AND CHECK IT OUT, NARUKAMI-KUN.
GOT IT!
....

HEY, YOU.
HMMM... DETEC-TIVE?
WH...
PFF. YEAH RIGHT, LIKE THAT'S EVEN POSSIBLE!
REMIND ME NOT TO UNDER-ESTIMATE THAT KAKINOUCHI BLOOD....
HAHAHAHA
HA HA HA! I THINK WE MIGHT HAVE BOUGHT A LITTLE TOO MUCH!
WE EVEN BOUGHT A CAKE TO BRING HOME TO LOKI-KUN!!
AHH!
BOMF

DUNNNNNN
I'M SOR....
GEH MAYURA !!
OW, OH NO...
AW, THE CAKE....
GET OVER HERE QUICK, LOKI!!
LO...!
SHH!
NO, I WASN'T REALLY LOOKING WHERE I WAS GOING, SORRY.
HEHEEEH! A MAIDEN ENRAP-THRED!!
BLUSH
THIS IS WEIRD
UH!
STAARE
WHAT!? OH, UH... YEAH, YES HE CERTAINLY WAS....!
THAT GUY WAS PRETTY COOL, WASN'T HE~~
BWOONG BWOOO
MAYUMAYU
HA HA HA HA HA
?
ADIEU!
PWIP
WOBBLE WOBBLE WOBBLE

HEY THERE, PRETTY LADY... ♡
...BUT THERE WAS... SOMETHING ABOUT THAT GUY JUST NOW...
AHHH. THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE...
HEY, LOKI! LOOK OVER THERE! A BLONDE WOMAN...!
WHAT ARE YOU SMILING FOR?
HEY, LOKI!!
IT COULD BE FREYA!!


JUST WAIT ONE MOMENT, AND I'LL RUN AND GET HIM FOR YOU!
BUT THE BOSS MIGHT BE A BIT MAD...

GWAH! A DRAG QUEEN !?
YOU'RE JUST A LITTLE LATE AREN'T YOU-
OH~!? SO HAND-SOME~! I'LL FORGIVE YOU THEN~!

NO IDEA...
...WHAT IS EVEN GOING ON?

AAAHH!!
I GOT ALL THE MONEY TOGETHER! SO HURRY UP AN' TAKE ME TO WHERE YOU STASHED THE GOODS!
!
SEE SEE
YOU HAD ME WORRIED THERE FOR A SEC. I THOUGHT YOU MIGHTA RUN INTO SOME TROUBLE OR SOMETHIN'.
TADUM

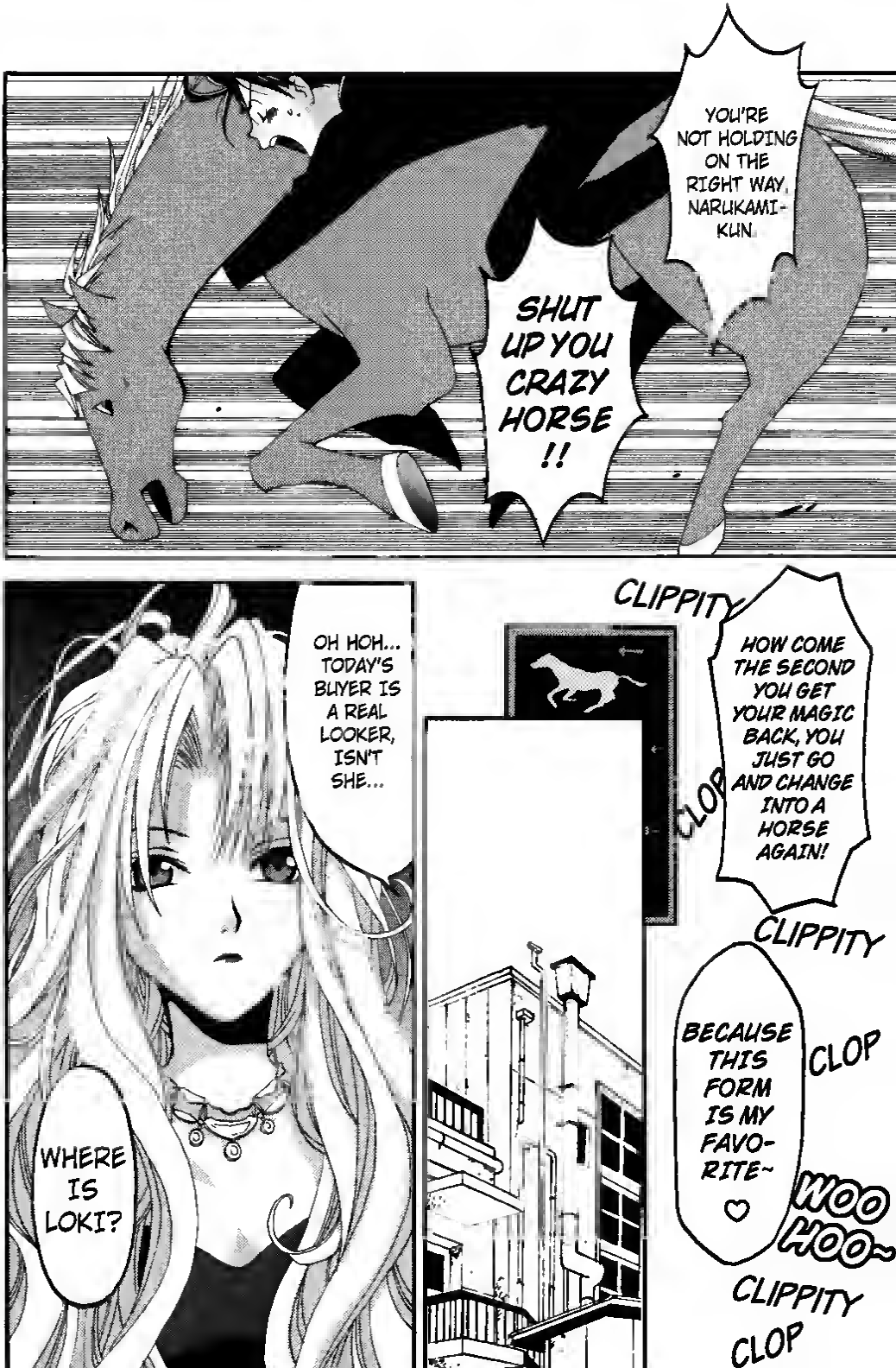
MA-MASUMI-CHA...
YOU ARE...
DRUG... TRAFFICKING..!?
HEY, DON'T RUN AWAY!!
GRAB
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!!
AAAH!
TH' COPS!?
...WANTED FOR CRIMES OF ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICK-ING!!
POINT
IN THAT CASE, FREYA MUST BE....
I-I-I'M JUST A GO-BETWEEN, THOUGH!!
THEY JUST WANTED TO USE ME AS A LANDMARK!
'COS I'M A PRETTY BLONDE, THEY SAID!!
PRETTY BLONDE ...?

AHH..
I'M IN HEAVEN...
HMM~
HMMM~~
HMM~
THE HUMAN REALM TRULY IS ENTER-TAINING~
DONK
GH..
GLANCE
IS A PAIN IN THE ASS OF A BUYER...
AAAHH... THIS WOMAN...

IS HE REALLY TAKING ME TO WHERE LOKI IS...?
BWB BWB
JUST 'COS YOU'RE PRETTY DOES-N'T MEAN YOU GET A BETTER PRICE.
ONLY BECAUSE IT WAS TOO EXPENSIVE FOR YOU TO BUY STRAIGHT OUT!
...SHE EVEN MADE ME RENT THIS CAMPER...
WANTING TO GET IN THE BATH BEFORE WE EVEN GET THERE...
BRM BRM BRM BRM
HE DID THAT, SO THERE'S NO WAY THIS IS NOT RELATED TO LOKI.
ALL RIGHT, MY GOLDEN-HAIRED LADY, LET US GO!
(BESIDES THAT, HE COULD NOT HAVE CALLED TO ME SO FAMILIARLY IF HE WAS NOT...)
WELL, I SUPPOSE THERE'S NAUGHT ELSE THIS HUMAN COULD ACTUALLY WANT FROM ME.
WAHH..
??
HELP ME...
LOKI-SAMA..
NO YOU CAN'T...!
BA DUMP!
NNH!
I WILL KILL YOU, LOKI. JUST YOU WAIT...

IN OTHER WORDS, THIS IS WHAT'S GOING ON...
SOMEONE MISTOOK FREYA FOR SOMEONE ELSE AND TOOK HER TO THE PLACE FOR THE DRUG DEAL.
THE PLACE THE DRAG QUEEN GAVE ME... I KNOW WHERE IT IS, BUT....
IT'S PRETTY FAR AWAY, ISN'T IT...
WHAT'LL WE DO, LOKI?
RUMBLE
ALL RIGHT, HURRY UP, NARU-KAMI-KUN!
CLOP
CLOP
WAAA!

WE EVEN HAD TO BUY A NEW CAKE...
IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR US TO GO HOME, ISN'T IT YAMINO-SAN?
WHAT COULD LOKI-SAMA BE DOING...
WAAA! A HOR-SEY~
NO WAY... IN THE MIDDLE OF TOWN...?
NEIIII IIGH
AAAAAA AAAAAAA
HEHH
AAAA WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE NARU-GAMI-SAN AND LOKI-SAMA DOING!?
TWICE AS STRESSED!!
FLAIL FLAIL FLAIL
FLAP

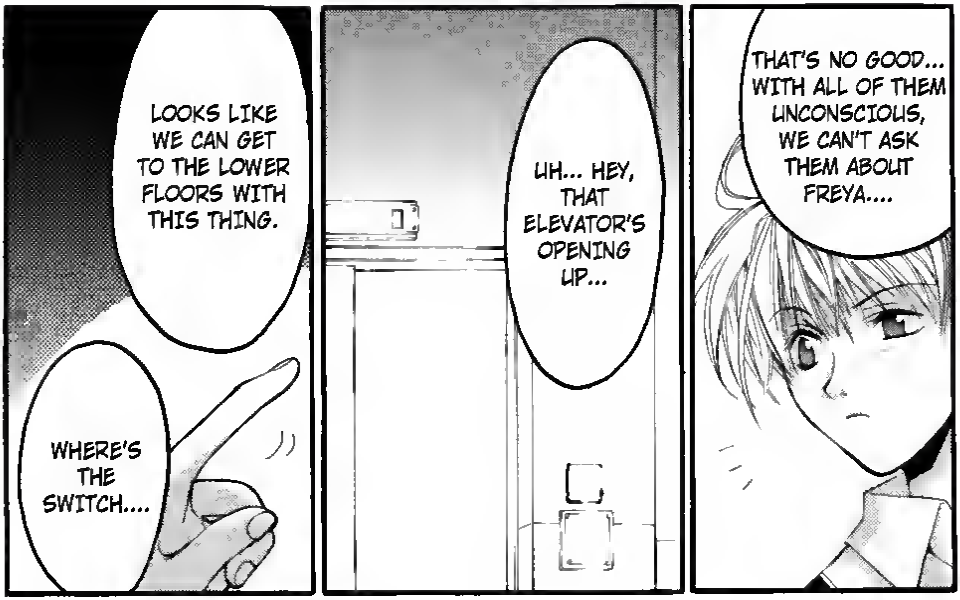

YOU'RE NOT HOLDING ON THE RIGHT WAY, NARUKAMI-KUN.
SHUT UP YOU CRAZY HORSE !!
OH HOH... TODAY'S BUYER IS A REAL LOOKER, ISN'T SHE...
WHERE IS LOKI?
CLIPPITY
CLOP
HOW COME THE SECOND YOU GET YOUR MAGIC BACK, YOU JUST GO AND CHANGE INTO A HORSE AGAIN!
CLIPPITY
BECAUSE THIS FORM IS MY FAVO-RITE~ ♡
CLOP
WOO HOO~
CLIPPITY
CLOP

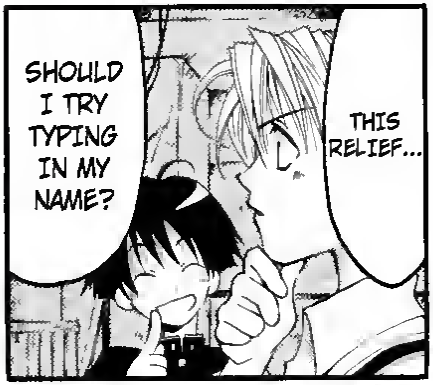
I'M SO SORRY, OUR TRANSACTION IS GOING TO HAVE TO WAIT JUST A LITTLE BIT, CUSTOMER!
KN
WH-WHAT !?!?
A SUSPICIOUS PERSON IS TRYING TO ENTER THE BUILDING, COME HELP ME OUT!!
TINK!
LOKI...?
YES!! LOKILO-KILOKI-LOKILO-KILOKI!!
BRING HIM OUT, QUICK-LY!!
BANG BANG
OH, YOU MEAN A KILO-GRAM...
WHAT AN IMPATIENT CUSTOMER-
HEH HEH...
I'VE WAITED SO LONG TO SEE YOU... LOKI.
KACHN
WHAT IS THIS PLACE, ISN'T THIS JUST AN ABANDONED FACTORY? IS THIS REALLY THE PLACE?
IT LOOKS LIKE IT WAS ONCE A GRAIN PROCESSING PLANT...

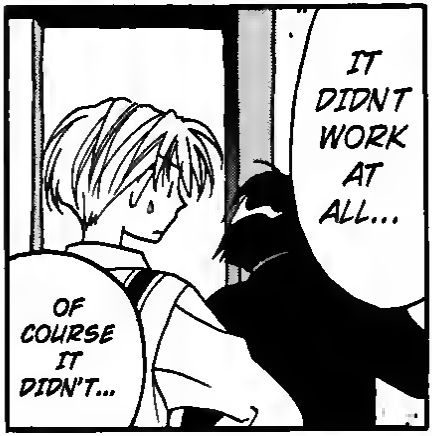
HA HA!
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE A POPULAR GUY, LOKI. ALL THESE PEOPLE CAME TO GREET YOU!
A
ALL RIGHT!!
WELL!
IT LOOKS LIKE THIS IS NO NORMAL ABANDONED FACTORY.
HUP!
LETS GO, NARUKAMI-KUN!!

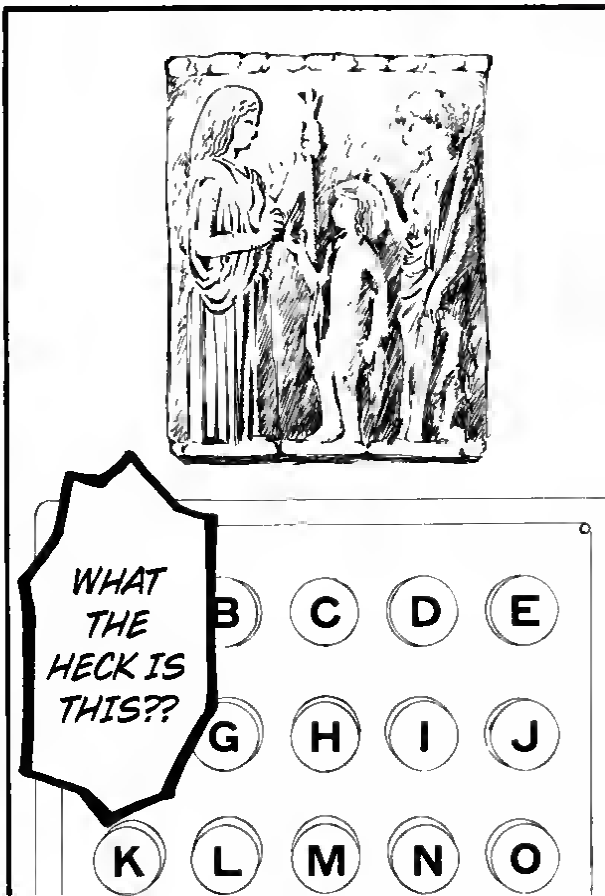
DSH!
HAH!
GUH!
BAM
SFHHHHH!
EHEHE~ IT'S SO NICE TO HAVE SUCH LONG ARMS AND LEGS~
HEY, LOKI!
LOOK OUT!!
KA CHK
OH, AND...

FOOM!!
I CAN USE MY MAGIC! ♡
PSHHH
...WELL, LOOK AT THAT! YOU DIDN'T LEAVE A SINGLE ONE OF THEM ON THEIR FEET...
WOOPS~ IT'S BEEN SO LONG, I JUST COULDN'T CONTROL MYSELF...
YOU REALLY ARE CRAZY...
YOU THINK SO?


LOOKS LIKE WE CAN GET TO THE LOWER FLOORS WITH THIS THING.
WHERE'S THE SWITCH....
UH... HEY, THAT ELEVATOR'S OPENING UP...
THAT'S NO GOOD... WITH ALL OF THEM UNCONSCIOUS, WE CAN'T ASK THEM ABOUT FREYA....


SHOULD I TRY TYPING IN MY NAME?
THIS RELIEF...


IT DIDN'T WORK AT ALL...
OF COURSE IT DIDN'T...

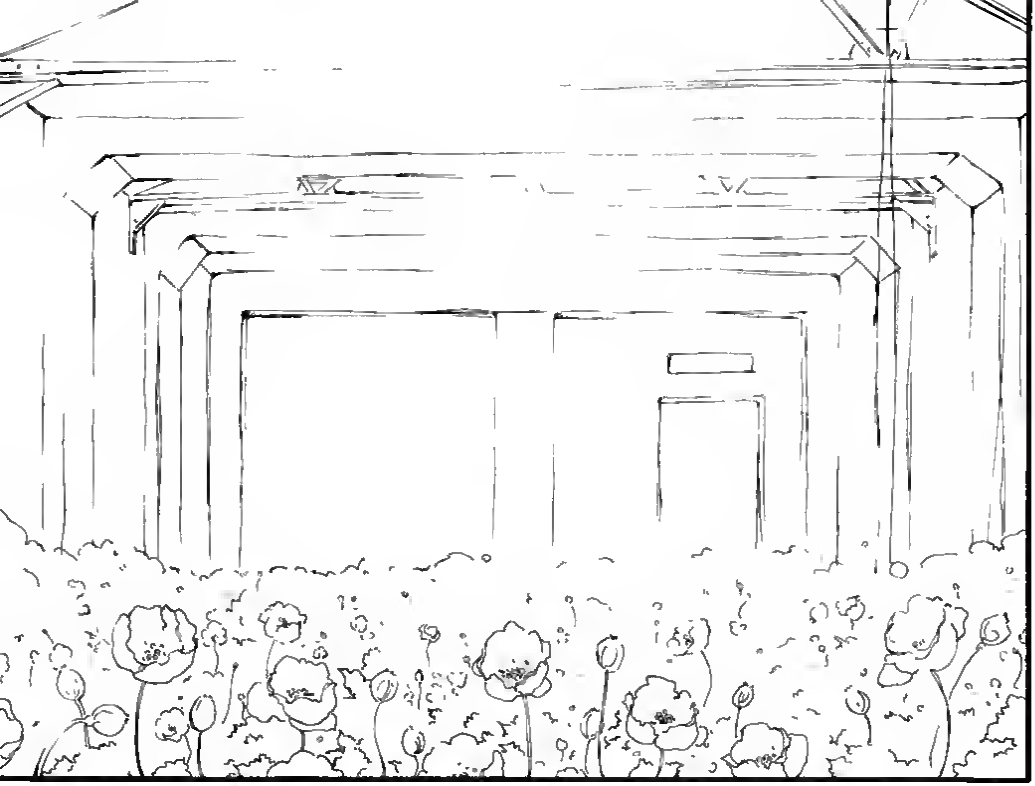

WHAT THE HECK IS THIS??
B
C
D
E
G
H
I
J
K
L
M
N
O

POMF
GRAIN..!! I SEE!
THIS IS A DRUG TRAFFICKING RING'S HIDE-OUT... AND IT'S IN AN ABAN-DONED GRAIN PROCESSING PLANT...
IT'S PROBABLY A CODE, THAT'S WHAT I MEAN...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN OF COURSE NOT!!
SILENCE
THIS WAS ONCE A GRAIN PROCES-SING PLANT, SO THAT RELIEF IS A PICTURE OF DEMETER YOU SEE.
SHE'S THE GODDESS OF GRAINS IN GREEK MYTH-OLOGY.
IF I PUT IN DEME-TER...
DEMETER
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
HUH WHAT'S THAT?
VWEEN
ALL RIGHT, THERE IT GOES!!
BEEP BEEP
NO WAY...
OH!!
THEN, MAYBE THIS IS IT!?
BEEP
BEEP
HUH!? IT DIDN'T START UP?
THAT'S PRETTY WEIRD...
HEH, LOOKS LIKE YOU GOTTA LONG WAY TO GO TOO, EH~
AH HAH HAH HAH

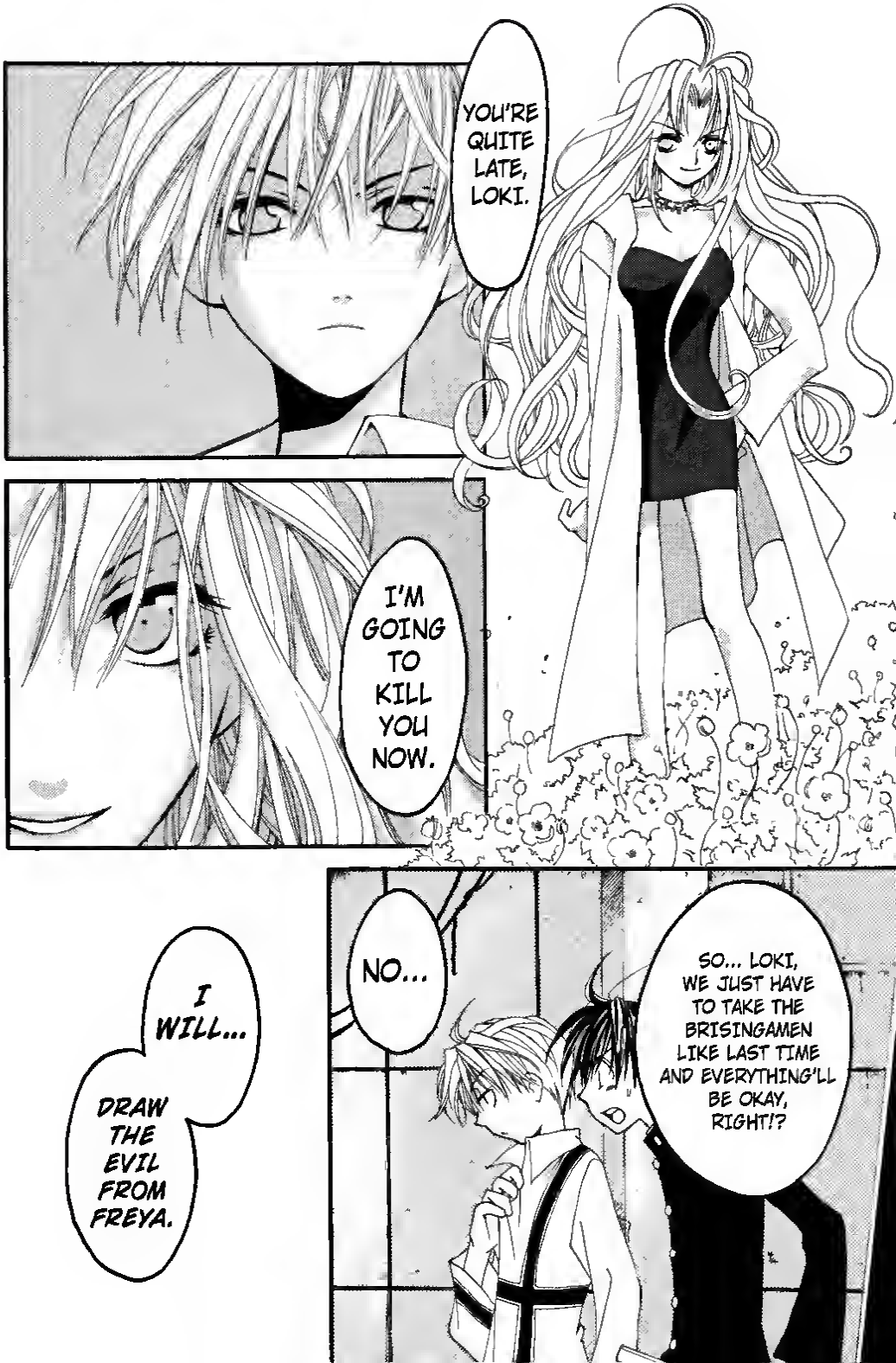
IT'S JUST LIKE A DUNGEON IN A VIDEO GAME...
CHK
CERES IS THE EQUIVALENT OF DEMETER IN ROMAN MYTHOLOGY. IT'S SAID THAT SHE SLEPT USING THE POPPY, THE FLOWER THAT NARCOTICS ORIGINATE FROM.
WHAT'D YOU PUT IN, LOKI?
I PUT IN "CERES"
CERES
YES, BUT...
VWEEEEN....
TO GET TO THE GODDESS FREYA, WE HAVE TO USE A PASSWORD FROM A GODDESS, HUH...
...I'M STILL WONDERING WHY IT IS THAT FREYA SEEMS TO WANT TO KILL ME SO BADLY?

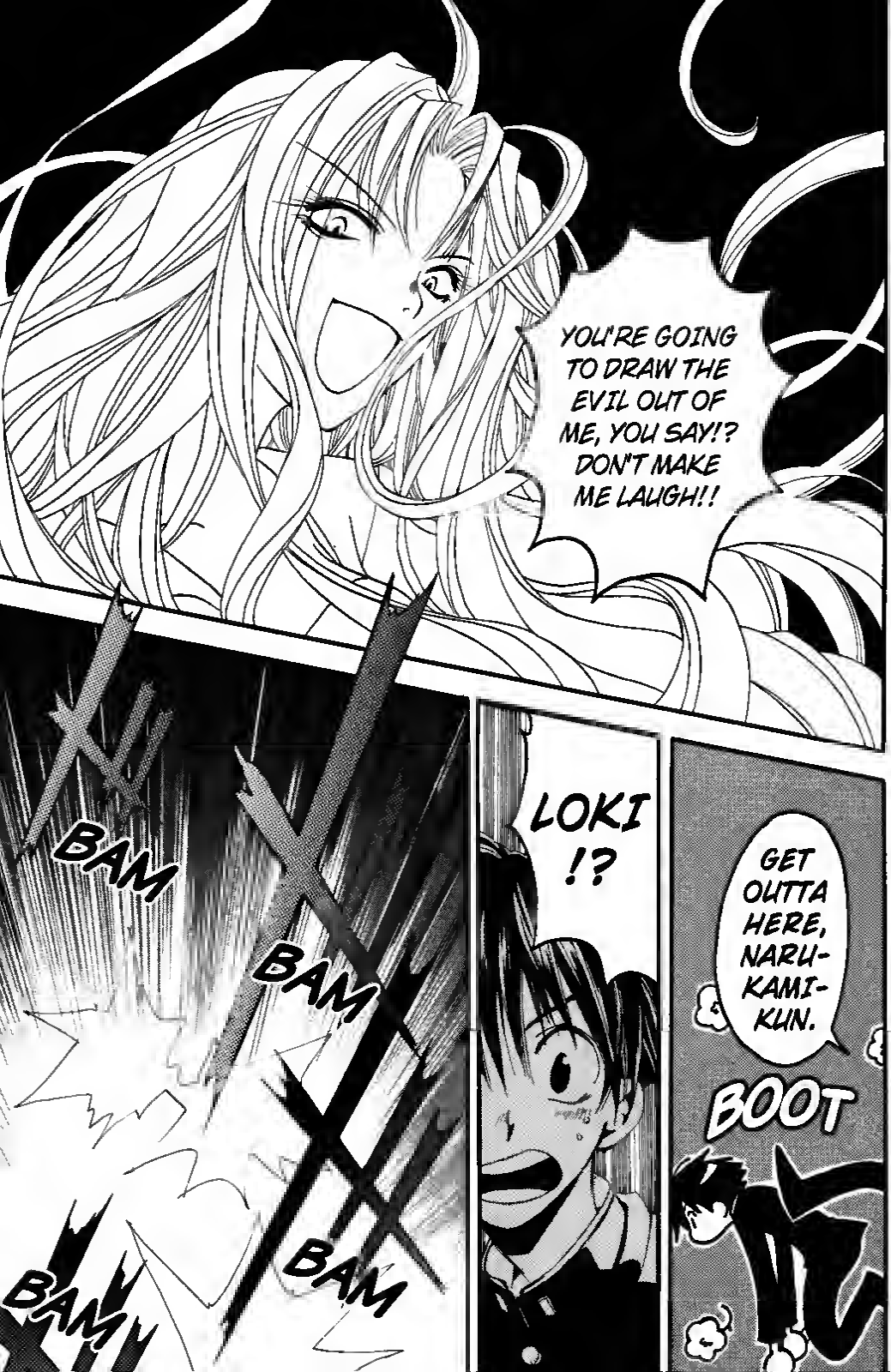
Oh!!
ISN'T IT BECAUSE YOU DUMPED HER OR SOMETHING...?
WH...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN...?
JUST SHUT UP, I'M BUSY!
KABOM!
DWUH!
HERE THEY ARE!
NO! I HAD NO IDEA ABOUT THAT!!
FREYA HAD... ...FOR ME...!?
KATUN
PING.

AUGHH
I TOLD YOU, I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!!
WAHAHAH
SEE, THIS IS WHY PEOPLE CALL YOU A PLAYBOY... JEEZ...
WHAT, YOU'RE SAYING YOU DON'T REMEMBER HAVING DUMPED HER!?
AHAHA
FOR ONE THING... THE IDEA THAT FREYA, PRIDEFUL AS SHE IS, COULD FEEL THAT WAY ABOUT SOMEONE LIKE ME....
THIS IS...



HM... THIS IS WHERE THEY GROW THE POPPIES.
THEN THEY REFINE THEM INTO NAR-COTICS...
FREYA MUST BE...
WOOSH
WHOA!!


YOU'RE QUITE LATE, LOKI.
I'M GOING TO KILL YOU NOW.
NO...
SO... LOKI, WE JUST HAVE TO TAKE THE BRISINGAMEN LIKE LAST TIME AND EVERYTHING'LL BE OKAY, RIGHT!?
I WILL...
DRAW THE EVIL FROM FREYA.

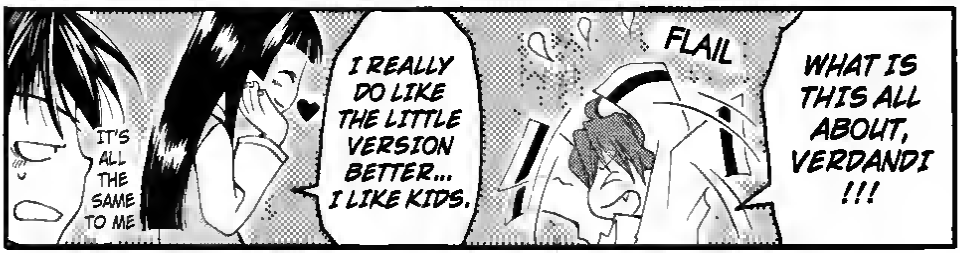

YOU'RE GOING TO DRAW THE EVIL OUT OF ME, YOU SAY!? DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH!!
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
LOKI !?
GET OUTTA HERE, NARU-KAMI-KUN.
BOOT

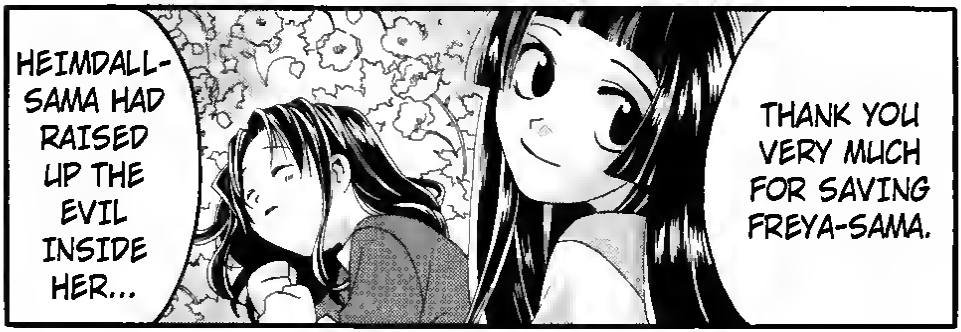
OUCH...
BADUM
SH... SHUT UP, YOU...
BADUM
BADUM
WHAT... IS THIS...
BADUM
STOP !!!
DON'T BE MEAN TO LOKI-SAMA..
UNH!
BADUM
WELL, FINE.
WHY WILL YOU NOT FIGHT BACK...!?

...LO...KI I WILL... MAKE IT SO YOU... NEVER...
BADUM
PANT
BADUM!
PANT
OFFEND MY EYES AGAIN!!
BWOOM
WOOSH
!
FSH

...AH...
.....!
BADUMP
...!!
KR
SH

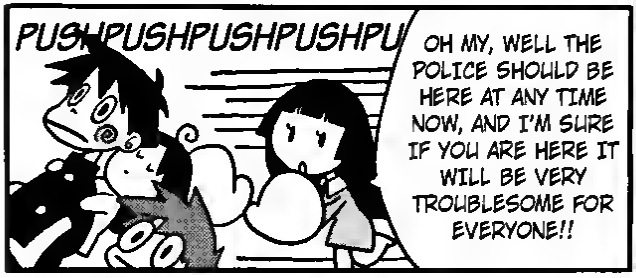
JUST AS I EXPECTED, YOU MADE IT HERE LONG BEFORE I WOULD HAVE, LOKI-SAMA.
PUNYAAAAAAA
WH... HUH?
I'M LITTLE AGAIN?


IT'S ALL THE SAME TO ME
I REALLY DO LIKE THE LITTLE VERSION BETTER... I LIKE KIDS.
FLAIL
WHAT IS THIS ALL ABOUT, VERDANDI !!!


HEIMDALL-SAMA HAD RAISED UP THE EVIL INSIDE HER...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR SAVING FREYA-SAMA.

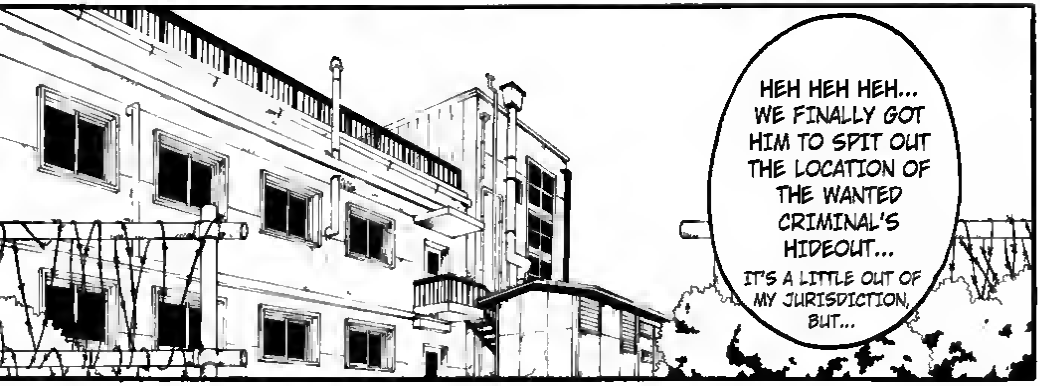
THAT'S ALL WELL AND GOOD, BUT I HAVE A LOT MORE QUESTIONS FOR YOU!
WHAT THE HECK IS GOING ON IN ASGARD!?

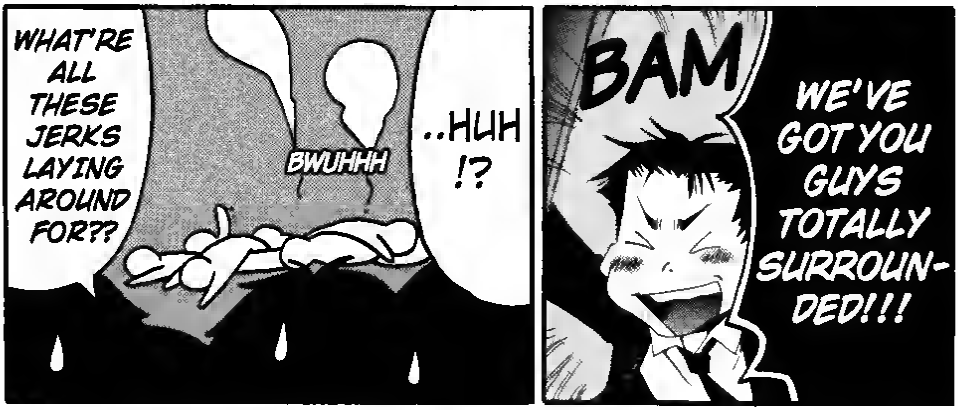
I BELIEVE THE FACT THAT YOU WERE ABLE TO CLEANSE HER IS MEANINGFUL IN SOME WAY, LOKI-SAMA.

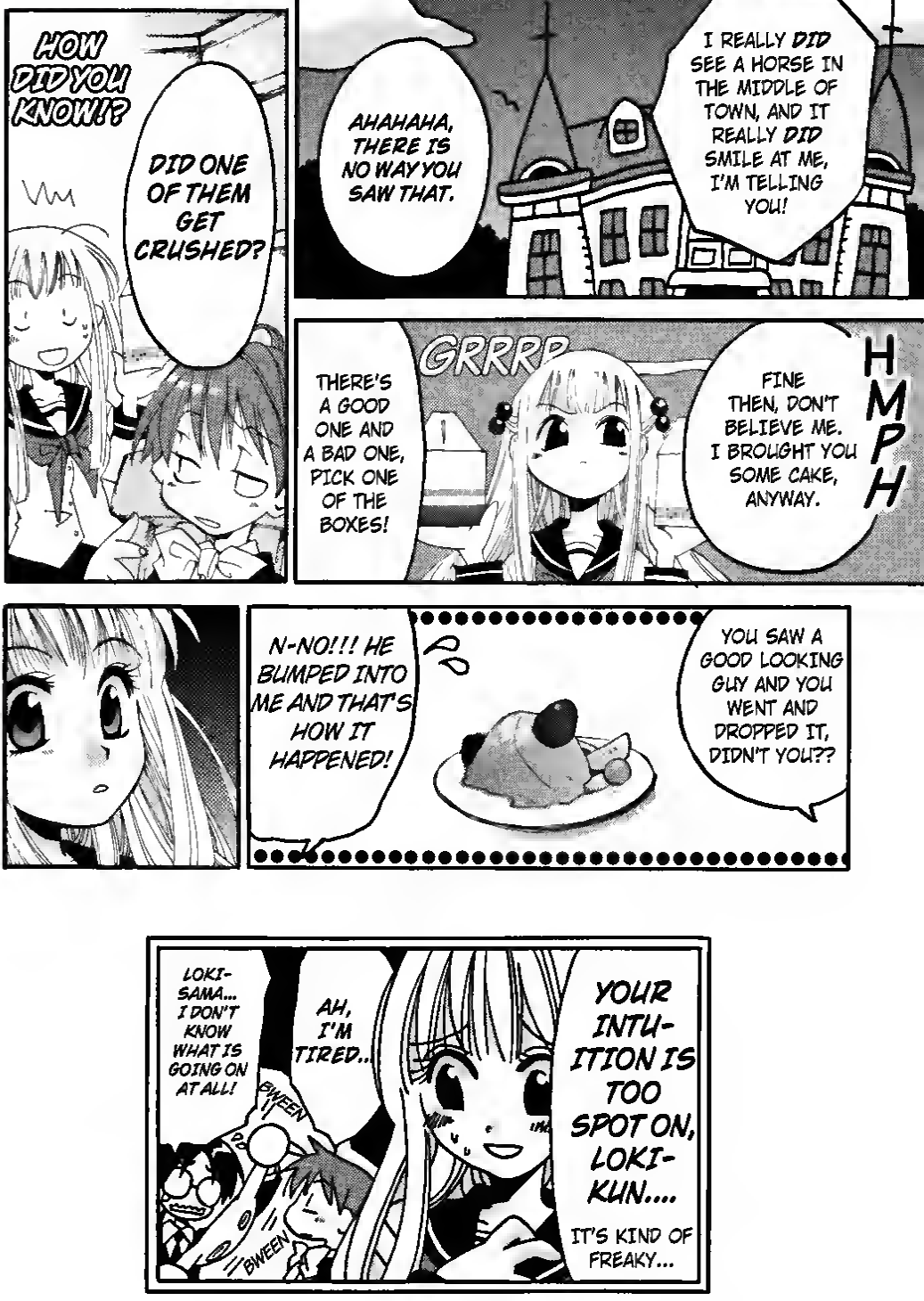

PUSHPUSHPUSHPUSHPU
OH MY, WELL THE POLICE SHOULD BE HERE AT ANY TIME NOW, AND I'M SURE IF YOU ARE HERE IT WILL BE VERY TROUBLESOME FOR EVERYONE!!

RESTS IN YOUR HANDS, LOKI-SAMA.
THE END OF THE WORLD...
...?
KA CHK...

..NN
OH, REIYA, YOU'RE UP?
...I HAD A NICE DREAM FOR THE FIRST TIME IN QUITE A LONG WHILE....
I DREAMED OF YOU, LOKI-SAMA....
HOW NICE, REIYA!
DON'T I EVER GET TO BE THE HERO?
YES, IT WAS!


HEH HEH HEH... WE FINALLY GOT HIM TO SPIT OUT THE LOCATION OF THE WANTED CRIMINAL'S HIDEOUT...
IT'S A LITTLE OUT OF MY JURISDICTION, BUT...


..HUH !?
BWUHHH
WHAT'RE ALL THESE JERKS LAYING AROUND FOR??
BAM
WE'VE GOT YOU GUYS TOTALLY SURROUN-DED!!!


I REALLY DID SEE A HORSE IN THE MIDDLE OF TOWN, AND IT REALLY DID SMILE AT ME, I'M TELLING YOU!
AHAHAHA, THERE IS NO WAY YOU SAW THAT.
HOW DID YOU KNOW!?
DID ONE OF THEM GET CRUSHED?
GRRRR
HMPH
FINE THEN, DON'T BELIEVE ME. I BROUGHT YOU SOME CAKE, ANYWAY.
THERE'S A GOOD ONE AND A BAD ONE, PICK ONE OF THE BOXES!
N-NO!!! HE BUMPED INTO ME AND THAT'S HOW IT HAPPENED!
YOU SAW A GOOD LOOKING GUY AND YOU WENT AND DROPPED IT, DIDN'T YOU??
LOKI-SAMA... I DON'T KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON AT ALL!
AH, I'M TIRED..
BWEEN
BWEEN
YOUR INTU-ITION IS TOO SPOT ON, LOKI-KUN....
IT'S KIND OF FREAKY...

NIGHT 22

OUR (?) BOY DETECTIVE TEAM!!

WORK! GIVE ME WORK!!
BOM
FIST!!
THERE CAN'T BE NO DETECTIVE WORK.

DING DONG
WOW, LOKI-KUN, YOU SEEM TO BE REALLY FIRED UP. ....HOW COME?
AUNGH!! COME ON, SOMEONE COMMIT A CRIME!!
LOKI-SAMA, PLEASE CALM YOUR-SELF!

...I WOULDN'T SAY I QUITE TRUST THEM YET. I DON'T HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT THE THREE OF THEM ARE THINKING. HOWEVER...
GIVEN THAT ODIN HAS ABANDONED ME, TO DRAW THE EVIL OUT OF HUMANS IS THE ONLY WAY THAT MY TRUE POWERS WILL RETURN. ALLOWING ME TO REGAIN MY FORMER FORM AND RETURN TO ASGARD. THERE'S NOTHING FOR IT. I HAVE TO DO IT.
HMPH.
OH LOOK, CUSTOMERS! I BET YOUR ENTHUSIASM CALLED THEM LOKI-KUN.
WELL THEN, I'LL GO ANSWER THE DOOR FOR YOU~
PITTER PATTER PITTER PATTER
...LOKI-SAMA.
IS IT TRULY WISE TO TRUST THE NORNS?
KA CHK
OKAY. COME ON IN. C'MON!
I'VE TRIED TO FIGURE OUT ANOTHER WAY, BUT CASES ARE....
SIGH
THE PROBLEM IS IN HOW TO REGAIN YOUR MAGICAL POWER, THEN?

JUST GIMME A CASE, PLEASE !!
WHAT'S UP, LOKI-KUN!! WE CAME OVER TO PLAY!!
SMII ILE
SMII ILE

WE'VE GOT A CASE, LOKI-KUN! A REAL BIG CASE!!
CLIEN... OH YEAH!
SLUMP
MAN, I THOUGHT YOU GUYS WERE A CLIENT...

WHEE
OH, ARE THESE YOUR FRIENDS, LOKI-KUN?
WE MET AT THE KENDO DOJO THAT NARUKAMI-KUN WAS WORKING AT PART-TIME...
WHEE

THE DEVIL'S ORGAN?
AND SHE HEARD THE DEVIL'S ORGAN SCREAMING, YOU KNOW...
SO THERE'S THIS GIRL IN OUR CLASS...

WHEE
HOW IS NARU?
LET'S PLAY A CARD GAME!
WOWWWW~ LOKI-KUN'S PLACE IS SUPER COOL!!
WHEE

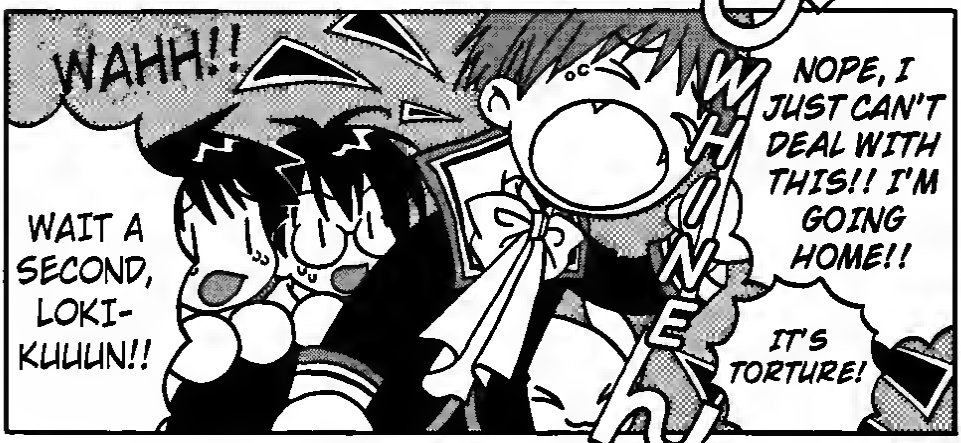
SLUMP X 2
7 MYSTERY SPOTS!!
YEAH! IT'S ONE OF OUR SCHOOL'S SEVEN MYSTERY SPOTS!!
IN THE BACK RIGHT PART OF THE MUSIC ROOM, THERE'S A WORN-OUT OLD ORGAN, AND IF YOU PLAY IT, YOU CAN HEAR THE SHRIEKING OF A DEMON!!
ANYONE WHO HEARS THIS SHRIEKING WILL BE DRAGGED TO HELL WITHIN A WEEK OF HEARING IT...
EEEK!!
IF WE JUST LEAVE HER THAT WAY, SHE'LL BE DRAGGED TO HELL, LOKI-KUN!!
YOU GOTTA DO SOMETHING, LOKI-KUN!!
EEEEEK!!
YOU GOTTA HELP HER, LOKI-KUN!!
EEE
AND THERE'S A GIRL IN OUR CLASS WHO HEARD IT, RIGHT!!
EEEK!!!
OHHH~ MYS-TER-IEEES~
UHHH...
HUHH...
AHH.
HM.

I GUESS I REALLY AM AS BAD WITH KIDS AS I THOUGHT I WAS...!
YESTERDAY WAS PRETTY TIRING...
YAWNN!
MORNING!!
WHAT!? WHERE??
G'MORNIN', LOKI-KUN!! LET'S GO!!
TO MEET ME?
LOKI-SAMA THEY CAME TO MEET YOU.

YOU SAID YOU'D COME LOOK AT IT!
HEY, COME ON, WE TALKED ABOUT THIS YESTERDAY! THE ORGAN THING!!
WH... WHY?
WELL, DUH! WE'RE GOING TO OUR SCHOOL!!
YAMINO-MAMA
HAVE A GOOD DAY AT SCHOOL!
I COME TOO~
おおおおおおおお
AWAWAWAWA
LET'S GO TO SCHOOL!
WHAT AM I DOING HERE...
1 AND 2 MATHEMATICS
MAI ISN'T HERE TODAY, I GUESS. MAYBE SHE TOOK THE DAY OFF?
WHO?
THAT'S THE GIRL WHO HEARD THE CRIES OF THE ORGAN.

HA HA HA HA
OH, HUH... IS THAT SO?
HE'S OUR TRANSFER STUDENT, SIR!! YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT HIM?
MAN, YOU'RE SO OUT OF IT, AREN'T YA TEACH! HA HA HA!
WHO ARE YOU?
1.2 MATHEMATICS
PLEASE STOP TALKING AMONGST YOURSELVES, KIDS...
HM?

at school....
DING DONG BING BONG
DIVISION PRACTICE


WAHH!!
WAIT A SECOND, LOKI-KUUUN!!
WHINE
NOPE, I JUST CAN'T DEAL WITH THIS!! I'M GOING HOME!!
IT'S TORTURE!

CAN'T YOU STAY UNTIL AFTER SCHOOL, LOKI-KUN?? CAN'T YOU? CAN'T YOU??
WE WANT TO SHOW YOU THE ORGAN, LOKI-KUN. PLEAAASE!!
NNH
WEEP
WEEP
NGH
....!
TUG
A...ALL RIGHT... I GET IT, I WON'T GO HOME, BUT... AS FAR AS CLASS GOES...
...YOU GUYS LIED TO THE TEACHER, AND THAT'S NO GOOD!
DON'T CRYYY
CLATTER
I JUST CAN'T HANDLE THE HONEST TEARS OF LITTLE KIDS...
HNN... I REALLY AM...
SO BAD WITH KIDS...
FINE FINE
I'LL GO TAKE A NAP ON THE ROOF.
JUST AS LONG AS YOU REALLY DON'T GO HOME, OK!!
WHINE WHINE

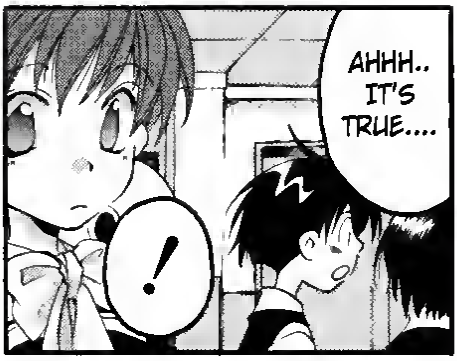
....
HMMM... WHAT SHOULD I SAY...
KOLL
THERE SURE IS A LOT GOING ON, EVEN FOR KIDS.

BUT IF YOU HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING WRONG YOURSELF, YOU AREN'T ACTUALLY A BAD PERSON, I THINK.
MNGH
MMM HMM.
FWUMP
SNORE
SNORE
AAHHH.. WHAT A GOOD NAP. IT'S ABOUT TIME TO GO, THEN.
HM...? THAT GIRL...
YEAH... I THOUGHT SHE'D BE GONE BY NOW...
HE'S HERE HE'S HERE!!! HI, LOKI-KUUUN~
OK, LET'S GO, LET'S GO!!
HUNH... I GUESS THAT EVEN WHILE DOING WRONG, THEY STILL HAVE THEIR INNOCENCE.

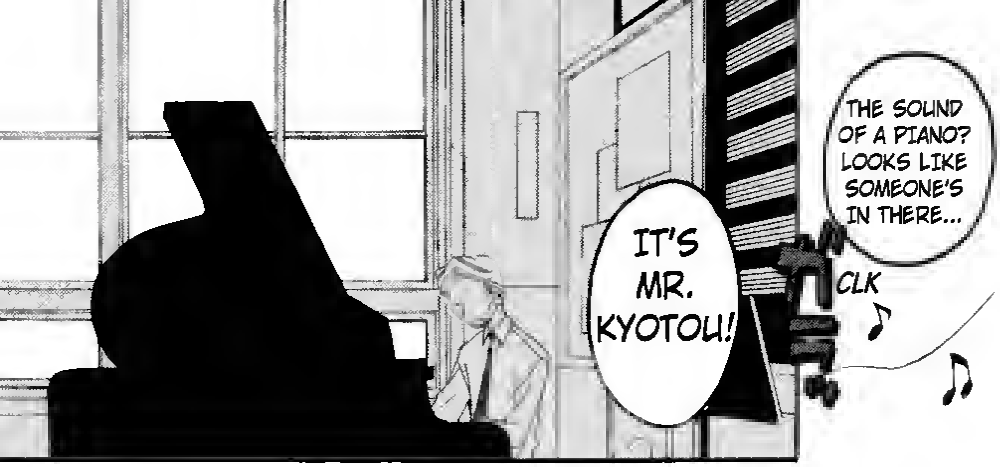
TROT TROT TROT
.....
THAT SKELETON SPECIMEN DANCES!!
SCIENCE ROOM
HEY, HEY!! THAT SCIENCE ROOM IS ONE OF THE SEVEN MYSTERIES OF THE SCHOOL!
REALLYYY SO THAT WAS WHY, THEN...
THAT'S JUST BECAUSE THE HOOKS CONNECTING THE JOINTS ARE LOOSE, THAT'S ALL.
RATTLE
WOAH!!
BAM
BAM
RATTLE
RATTLE
BAM
...SOMEONE PUT FLUORESCENT PAINT ON THE EYES HERE...
ISN'T THAT JUST A PRANK FROM ONE OF THE STUDENTS?
THEY EVEN SIGNED IT...
SAKURA
HMM...?
WELL THEN, THIS IS A PORTRAIT OF ONE OF THE OLD PRINCIPALS OF THE SCHOOL... AT NIGHT HIS EYES LIGHT UP!

AH! IT'S MAI!

OH, THAT'S MAI-CHAN?



ISN'T THIS... A TEST FOR TOMOR-ROW?
YOU SHOULD BE MORE CAREFUL!
OH, MY BAD.
MR. MIYAHARA, YOU DROPPED A PRINTOUT!
?
SORRY, LOKI-KUN!
MAN, WHERE'D THAT MAI GET OFF TO!?
IT'S JUST, EVERY YEAR WE HEAR THE RUMORS, BUT WHAT CAN THERE REALLY BE DONE ABOUT IT, REALISTICALLY...
IT'D BE BAD IF THERE WAS AS MUCH OF AN UPROAR AS WITH THOSE ENTRANCE TESTS...
MUSIC ROOM
THE MUSIC ROOM!!
HERE IT IS!


THE SOUND OF A PIANO? LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE'S IN THERE...
IT'S MR. KYOTOU!
CLK

WE'RE LOOKIN' FOR THE SCHOOL'S GHOST STORIES!!
HEY....!

DID YOU FORGET SOMETHING, YOU THREE?
IT'S WAY PAST TIME FOR YOU TO GO HOME.

OF COURSE IF YOU JUST OUT AND OUT SAY IT, HE'S GONNA GET MAD!
WELL WHAT WAS I SPOSTA SAY, THEN !?

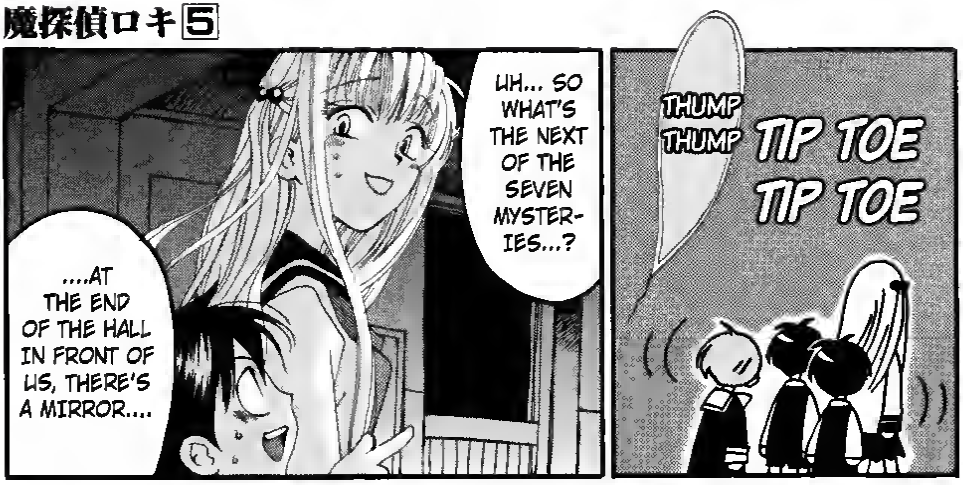
MANNN... I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU JUST BLURTED IT OUT!

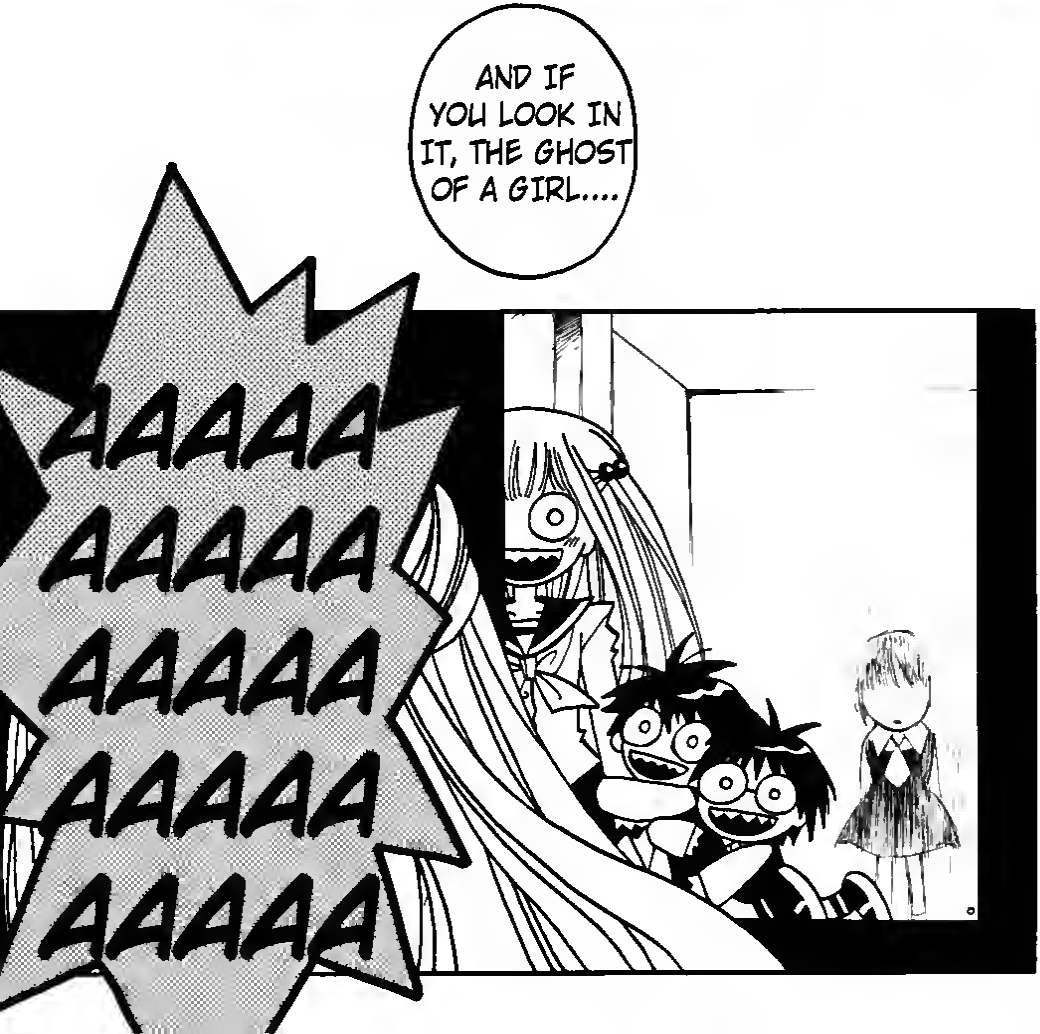
DUNNN
GET OUT OF HERE AND GO HOME!!

WHAT ARE YOU TWO TALKING ABOUT?
A BACK-DOOR...
NUH-UH!!
HUMF
YOU NEED TO USE YOUR BRAIN NOW!
YOU GOT INTO SCHOOL THROUGH A BACKDOOR, RIGHT?
OUR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S PRETTY FAMOUS FOR BEING HARD TO GET INTO, I GUESS....
AND EVERY YEAR THERE'S ALL THESE RUMORS ABOUT PEOPLE SELLING THE ANSWERS TO THE ENTRANCE EXAMS.
DINNER
SEE YOU LATER!
AFTER...?
ANYWAY, LOKI-KUN, WE'LL SEE YOU AFTER!
...SO THAT'S WHAT THOSE TEACHERS WERE TALKING ABOUT....
HMM
PUNYU
HMM

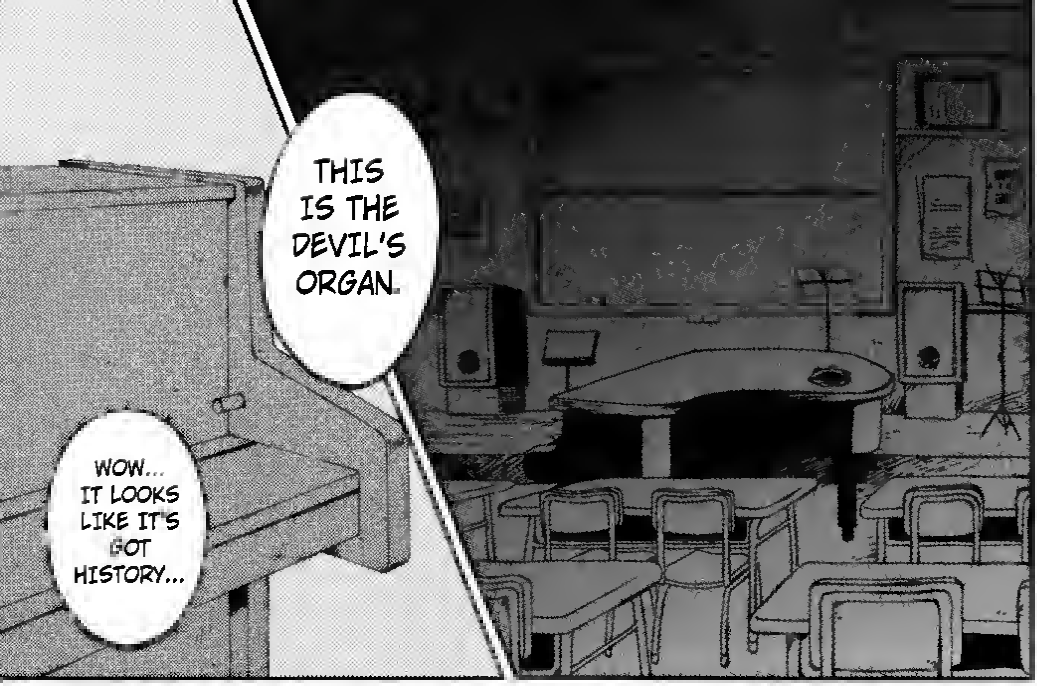
LOKI-KUN. YOU WENT TO THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL!?!?
WHA——!?
THAT'S SO GREAT, I WANT TO GO SEE THE SEVEN MYSTERIES OF THE SCHOOL TOOOOOO!!
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MIGHT SUIT YOU ANYWAY, MAYURA.
SUIT YOU PERFECTLY?
LOKI-KUUUN~
LET'S START LOOKING FOR A LEGITIMATE CASE TOMORROW.
IT'S GOTTA BE NIGHT TO FIND THE SCHOOL GHOSTS!!
WHOOOO
THE SEARCH FOR THE DEVIL'S ORGAN BEGINS HERE!
OOOO
HMM...? WHAT'S THE MATTER?
GOOD EVENING~

YEAHH— THE SCHOOL IS PRETTY EERIE AT NIGHT~
SHIIING
WHA...
IT'S TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM HOW IT LOOKS IN THE DAYTIME~
MARCH MARCH MARCH
HUHHH... NOW THERE'S THREE OF THEM...
THUM
THUMP
THUMP
!
PAUSE...
YOU CAN HEAR FOOTSTEPS BEHIND YOU...
THIS HALLWAY IS ONE OF THE SEVEN SCHOO MYSTERIES TOO....
THUMP
THUMP
PAUSE
.....


UH... SO WHAT'S THE NEXT OF THE SEVEN MYSTERIES...?
....AT THE END OF THE HALL IN FRONT OF US, THERE'S A MIRROR....
THUMP THUMP
TIP TOE
TIP TOE


AND IF YOU LOOK IN IT, THE GHOST OF A GIRL....
AAAAA
AAAAA
AAAAA
AAAAA
AAAAA

MAI-CHAN.
AAUGH
AAAAAA AAAAAA
AW, WHAT, MAI!? DON'T SCARE US LIKE THAT!
HUH...
O... OKAY?
POOF
I FEEL LIKE YOU CAN WIN AGAINST THE DEVIL, LOKI-KUN...
PLEASE, PROTECT ME FROM THE DEVIL!!
THIS TIME, YOU NEED TO STOP BEING STUBBORN AND STICK WITH U....
PWSH


THIS IS THE DEVIL'S ORGAN.
WOW... IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S GOT HISTORY...

I WAS DOING CLEANING DUTY, AND EVERYONE ELSE WAS TOO SCARED TO TOUCH IT...
MAI-CHAN, WHY DID YOU PLAY THE ORGAN?

WELL, YEAH! IT'S BEEN HERE FOR AAAAGES, AND THEY SAY IT'S DRAGGED LIKE TONS OF PEOPLE TO HELL ALREADY!!

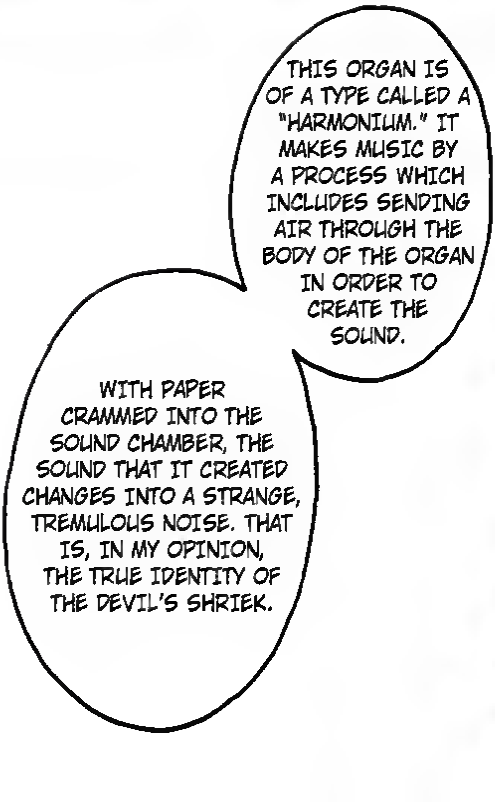
L-LOKI-KUN! WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?

I SAID THERE'S NO SUCH THING, AND WHEN I TRIED PLAYING IT, THERE REALLY WAS A SHRIEKING NOI....

I, TOO, WISH TO HEAR IT...
THE SHRIEK OF THIS ORGAN.
CREEEAK
BANG
AA....

PANT
PANT
AAAAAAAA!!
I REALLY HEARD IT! THE SHRIEK-ING!!
PATTER PATTER PATTER PATTER
AND WHO ARE YOU?
UM... WELL, UH...
LOKI-KUUN!
BUMP
BUMP
BUMP
FOUND THEM!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING...
...BEING HERE AT SCHOOL AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT!?
OH NO! IT'S MR. KYOTOU!!
HEY!

FOUND THE REAL SOURCE OF THE SHRIEKING.


THIS ORGAN IS OF A TYPE CALLED A "HARMONIUM." IT MAKES MUSIC BY A PROCESS WHICH INCLUDES SENDING AIR THROUGH THE BODY OF THE ORGAN IN ORDER TO CREATE THE SOUND.
WITH PAPER CRAMMED INTO THE SOUND CHAMBER, THE SOUND THAT IT CREATED CHANGES INTO A STRANGE, TREMULOUS NOISE. THAT IS, IN MY OPINION, THE TRUE IDENTITY OF THE DEVIL'S SHRIEK.

THERE WAS SOMETHING IN THE ORGAN??

SNATCH
!
THAT'S IMPOS-SIBLE!
HM? IT LOOKS LIKE THERE'S A MEMO OR SOMETHING WRITTEN HERE...
WHAT DID YOU FIND IN THERE..?
LOOKS LIKE TEST PRINT-OUTS...
THOSE ARE COPIES OF THE SCHOOL'S ENTRANCE EXAM, AREN'T THEY? THOUGH SOME OF THESE ARE QUITE OLD....
YOU COULDN'T HAVE BEEN USING THE SEVEN MYSTERIES OF THE SCHOOL IN ORDER TO HIDE THE EVIDENCE OF YOUR OWN WRONGDOING HERE...
MR. KYOTOU?
OF COURSE THERE'S NOTHING WRITTEN ON IT. WHAT ARE YOU SO NERVOUS ABOUT?

I'M...
NO, I I DON'T KNOW ANY-THING...
WHAT!? YOU WERE THE ONE SELLING THE ENTRANCE EXAM QUESTIONS??
NO WAYYY~ HOW AWFUL~
THOSE WHO LISTEN TO THE SHRIEKING OF THIS ORGAN ARE DRAGGED AWAY TO HELL... OR SO THE LEGEND GOES.
WHY DON'T YOU GIVE IT A LISTEN, KYOTOU-SENSEI?

AAAAGH
OH MY, MY, MY. YOU DID SOMETHING WRONG, DIDN'T YOU?
JUST AS THE RUMORS SAID, YOU'RE BEING DRAGGED AWAY TO...

WHOAA~
...DRAGGED INTO.... ETCHAN...?
I KNEW YOU WERE AWESOME, LOKI-KUN!!

SLURRRRRP
HUH !?

DINGDONG
WHAT'S THAT? A CUSTOMER? I'LL GO GET THEM.
I GUESS WE CAN STILL STUMBLE ON CRIMES JUST BY CHANCE, HUH.
I SAW A WHOLE LOT OF NEWS REPORTERS CAMPED OUT THERE, EVEN TODAY.
THAT SCHOOL'S BECOME THE TALK OF THE TOWN, NOW.
OH YEAH, SEE, ABOUT THAT!
BY THE WAY, DID YOU MANAGE TO ABSORB ANY MAGICAL POWER?
I DON'T REALLY CARE ANYMORE. I JUST... GIVE ME A CASE!! I WANT A CASE!!
HELLO~~
I ASKED ETCHAN ABOUT IT, AND I STILL DON'T GET IT...
IT SEEMS LIKE HE WAS ADAPTED BY THE NORNS SOMEHOW

HEY THERE, LOKI-KUN!!
HEY
WHAT'S GOING ON TODAY...?
UH
H-
THANKS LOKI-KUN~~
MAI SAYS SHE WANTS TO THANK YOU!
OH, IS THAT ALL...
PHEW
NOW THAT YOU MEN-TION IT....
SHINNG
URK
NEXT, WE'RE GONNA GO LOOK FOR HOOP SNAKES ON THE MOUNTAINS BEHIND THE SCHOOL!!
YAAA
OOH! HOOP SNAKES!!
HAVE A GOOD TIME, KIDS~
MARCH MARCH
CHK CHK

NIGHT 23 VISITOR

PHEW~ BEEN WORKIN' LATE INTO THE NIGHT- "THANKS FOR THE GOOD JOB YOU DID...."♡
THAT'S WHAT THEY SAID!
BEIN' SO BUSY ALL THE TIME I ALMOST FORGET THAT I'M ACTUALLY A G...
COULDN'T I GET SOME PENNIES FROM HEAVEN OR WHATEVER...
I WONDER IF SOME-THING GOOD COULD HAPPEN...
THOUGH A GO... HIS WISHES
ARE ORDINARY.
AAAA
!

HUH? WHERE'S THAT COMING FROM?
WHIRL WHIRL
ABOVE?
BAM
OW!! WHAT THE HELL WHOEVER YOU ARE!!
OWW
FSH

LO... KI... SAMA...
...A NORN !?
YEAH, I THINK THIS ONE'S NAME IS SKULD, OR SOME-THING...!
HEY! WAKE UP, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
SHAKE SHAKE
SILENCE .....
HEY, COME ON, DON'T JUST FALL OUT OF THE SKY AND PASS OUT FOR NO REASON~~~!!
WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO.....

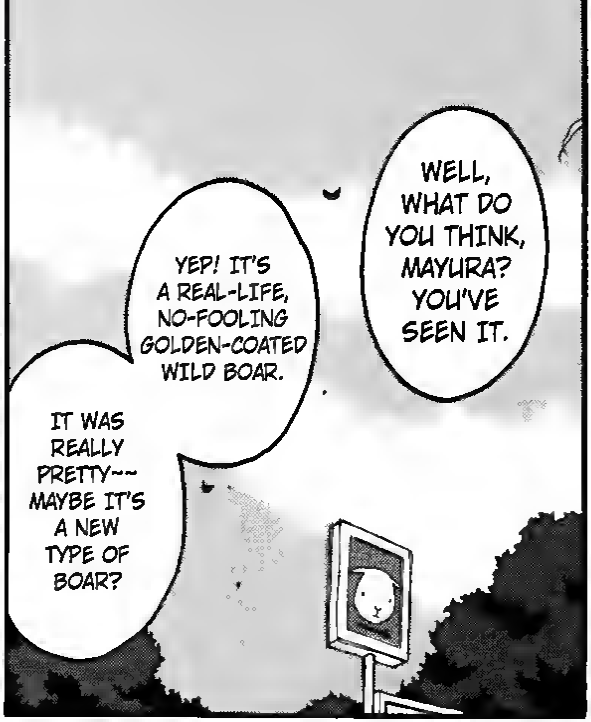
ANIMAL LAND
LOKI-KUN LOOK, LOOK, IT'S AMAZING!!
THERE REALLY IS A LITTLE GOLDEN BOAR HERE!
GWEE
GWEE
IT'S CUTE, ISN'T IT, LOKI-KUN?
LOKI-KUN? WHERE ARE YOU?

I JUST DON'T GET WHAT THESE HUMANS ARE THINKING!
PHEW... IT'S JUST ONE LITTLE BOAR, I CAN'T BELIEVE SO MANY PEOPLE HAVE COME TO SEE....
UH OH UH OH
CRUSHED!!
HEWP ME MAYU-RAHH...

MYSTERYYY
HOH HOH HOH HOH
BUT!! IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT LAST NIGHT, A GOLDEN BOAR JUST APPEARED HERE!!
THAT'S A GOOD REASON FOR SO MANY PEOPLE TO WANT TO COME SEE IT, DON'T YOU THINK?

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WAS BANGING AROUND MY HOUSE AT THE CRACK OF DAWN, AND DRAGGED ME OUT TO THIS PLACE...
I KNOW, RIGHT. THEY'RE CLEARLY ALL JUST JUMPING ON THE BANDWAGON OVER IT~~

GEE.... IS IT JUST A DILUTED COAT COLOR? OR MAYBE A SUDDEN MUTATION? LIKE AN ALBINO~
THERE YOU HAVE IT, FOLKS, SEEING IS BELIEVING!!
HUH ??
CHMP


WELL, WHAT DO YOU THINK, MAYURA? YOU'VE SEEN IT.
YEP! IT'S A REAL-LIFE, NO-FOOLING GOLDEN-COATED WILD BOAR.
IT WAS REALLY PRETTY~~ MAYBE IT'S A NEW TYPE OF BOAR?

...GOLDEN BOARS. HMM.
ACTUALLY, THERE WERE SUCH THINGS ON ASGARD, WEREN'T THERE.

NOOO, I DON'T WANT TO!! I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THAT CROWD!!
MOM, HELP!
I WANNA SEE IT AGAIN! LET'S GO, LET'S GO!!
GRAB
GRAB

OH, YOU WILL? THEN I'LL BE RIGHT BACK!
GO BY YOURSELF, MAYURA!! I'LL WAIT HERE.

GULLINBURSTI, THE GOLDEN BOAR, A BEAST WHO IS FASTER THAN A HORSE....
...WHO CAN CUT THROUGH THE DARKNESS AND FLY OVER SKY, SEA, AND MOUNTAIN.
AH HA HA
BUT THERE'S NO WAY IT COULD BE HIM, OF COURSE. HE'S FREY'S MOUNT AFTER ALL...
HA HA
I'M HOME~
OH, WELCOME HOME, LOKI-SAMA~
WEWCOME HOOM!!!
YAMINO-KUN.... FOOD..... I'M DYING....
WOBBLE
くたくた
IN THE END, MAYURA MADE ME WALK AROUND THE WHOLE PARK WITH HER...
HAHHHH... I'M SO TIRED!! AND I'M HUNGRY TOO!
GRUMMMBLEEE

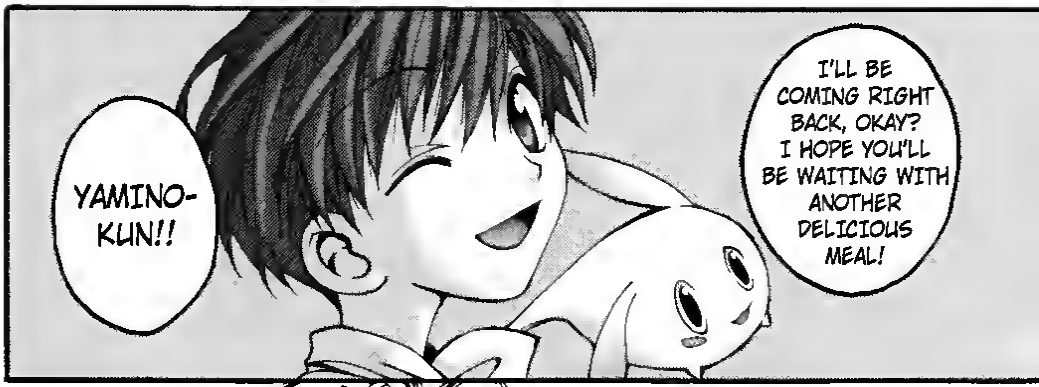
BOMF
LOKI-SAMA~
I WILL GIVE YOU MOUTH TO MOUTH~!!
OH NOOO, LOKI-KUN HANG IN THERE!!
GEHHH! WHAT IN THE WORLD!?
SHUT UP! LOKI, JUST WAKE UP!!
SKULD-SAN!! PLEASE STOP! LOKI-SAMA WILL DIE IF YOU KEEP THAT UP!!!!
PYEA
AH.
I.... WHAT DO I DOO....
SHOOK-A SHOOK-A SHOOK-A
HUHHH?
THAT GOLDEN BOAR...

I'VE BEEN DEALING WITH THIS ALL NIGHT LONG... I'M BEAT...
IF I DON'T HAVE GULL-CHAN, I CAN'T GO BACK TO ASGARD!
WEHHN
WAS GULLIN-BURSTI'S PIGLET, THEN...
FWAA
I JUST LET GO OF HIM FOR ONE SECOND~! IF NARUGAMI-SAN HADN'T BEEN THERE, I COULD HAVE DIED!
HOW'D YOU LOSE TRACK OF HIM? DID HE RUN OFF ON HIS OWN?
SLIDE SLIDE
TEE HEE
...IF A GOD DESCENDS TO THE HUMAN REALM UNDER THEIR OWN POWER, THERE'S NO REAL EFFECT ON THEM...
BUT IF THEY FALL, THEIR POWERS ARE LIMITED, AND THEIR BODIES UNDERGO A TRANSFORMATION.
SO... NOW I'M JUST A NORMAL GIRL, AND I CAN'T FIND GULL-CHAN....

HEY WAIT!! THAT MEANS THAT IF WE GET THAT BABY BOAR BACK, I CAN GO HOME TOO!!
OKAY LOKI!! LET'S GO FIND THAT BABY, WHERE'S THE BABY!!
GRRRRRR
WHAT DO I DO... IF I DON'T GET GULL-CHAN BACK THEN... I'LL BE LIKE THIS FOR THE REST OF....
HUHHHH... WELL THEN THAT MEANS THAT THE MAGICAL RESTRICTION MIGHT BE WHAT'S KEEPING LOKI IN HIS CHILD FORM, AND ALSO WHY I'M A HIGH SCHOOL KID...

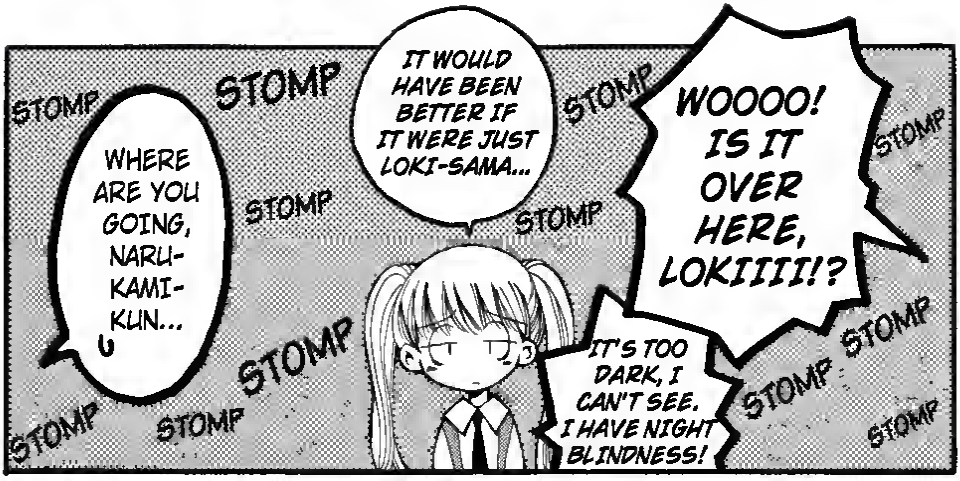
LOKI-SAMA, YOU ARE SO AMAZING!!
EVERYTHING IS LOOKING UP!
FWUMPH
I EVEN WENT AND SAW IT TODAY, HEHE
I KNOW EXACTLY WHERE IT IS. IN A PEN AT THE ZOO.
HEH

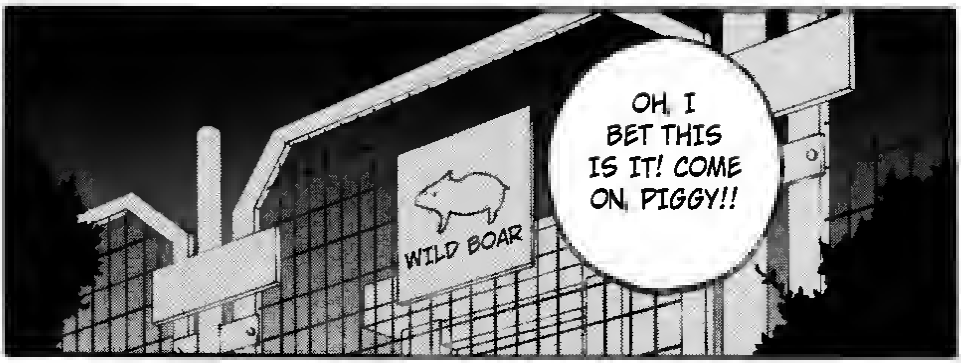
ALL RIGHT.... I GET IT....
LOKI-SAMA...
POOR SZECHUAN PORK..
TRAY
YEAH RIGHT! LIKE I CAN WAIT FOR THAT!!
I'M REALLY HUNGRY, CAN'T WE TAKE A MINUTE TO EAT....
YIKES! YIKES!
WAIIIT, NARU-KAMI-KUN!!
WOOSH
FLAIL FLAIL
WELL THEN, LET'S GET OVER THERE! TO THE ZOO!!


YAMINO-KUN!!
I'LL BE COMING RIGHT BACK, OKAY? I HOPE YOU'LL BE WAITING WITH ANOTHER DELICIOUS MEAL!

OF COURSE.
HAVE A GOOD TRIP, LOKI-SAMA.

動物園
WOWWW~! SO THIS IS THE ZOO I'VE HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT!!
YOU'VE HEARD ABOUT IT?
IT'S A WELL-KNOWN EARTH DATE SPOT.... ♡
WHERE IS THE LITTLE PIGGY!!
TAKE ME BACK HOME, PIGGY!!!
THUMP THUMP THUMP THUMP


STOMP
WHERE ARE YOU GOING, NARU-KAMI-KUN...
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER IF IT WERE JUST LOKI-SAMA...
WOOOO! IS IT OVER HERE, LOKIII!?
IT'S TOO DARK, I CAN'T SEE. I HAVE NIGHT BLINDNESS!


WILD BOAR
OH, I BET THIS IS IT! COME ON, PIGGY!!

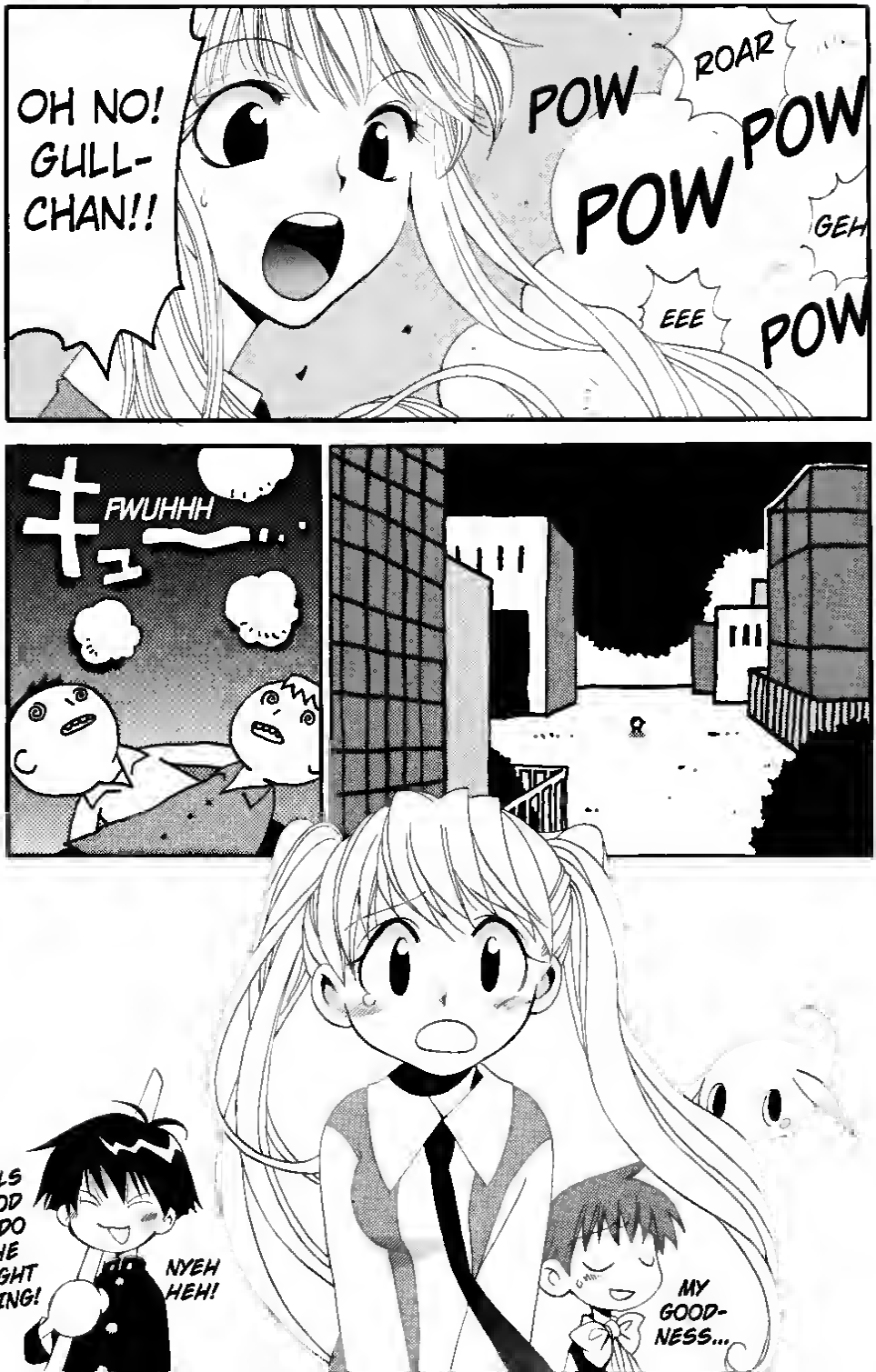
CREEEEAK
NOW BE QUIET...
YOU KEEP BEING NOISY.
.....
THEY DO HAVE A BARN TO STAY IN.
UWHAAA? THERE'S NOTHING HERE!?
EMPTY

I FEEL LIKE THERE'S SOME-THING...
HEY! GET IT!!
DAMN IT'S FAST.

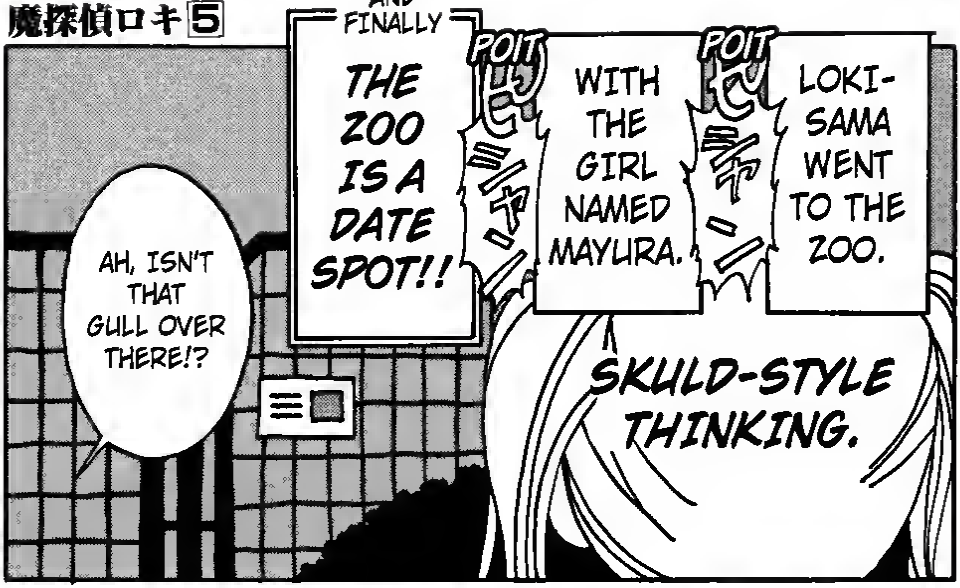
...HMMM THIS ATMO-SPHERE...
SNEAK
SNEAK

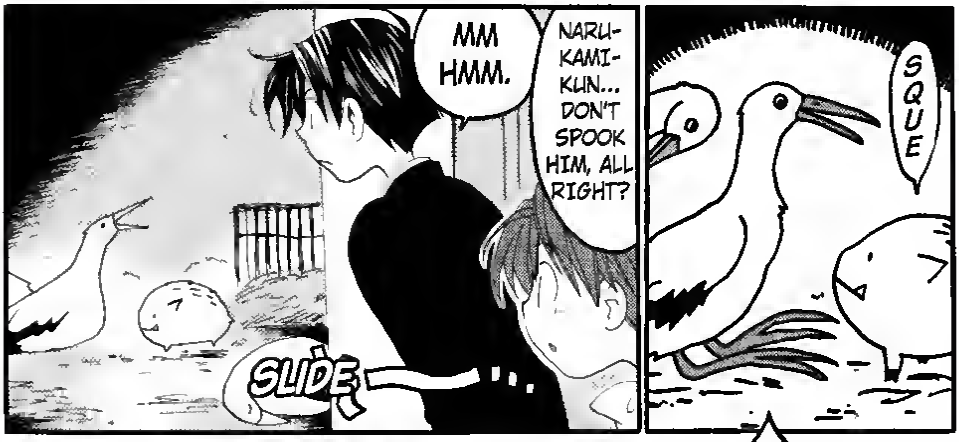
!?
...?
IS SOME-ONE THERE?

YOU GENTLEMEN DON'T WORK FOR THIS ZOO, DO YOU?
LET ME GUESS... PEOPLE WHO ARE QUICK TO JUMP ON A CHANCE TO SELL A RARE ANIMAL.
YOU TWO ARE UNDERGROUND SMUGGLERS?
WHAT ABOUT YOU GUYS!! YOU DAMN SNEAKY THIEVES!!
HA HA HA, MORE LIKE THIEVES OF JUSTICE!!
YEP!!! WE ARE STEALTHY THIEVES!!
DO NOT TREAT ME, THE HERO NARUGAMI-SAMA, AS A COMMON THIEF!
THE NERVE!
DOOM DOOM DOOM
GUH!
FWUP


OH NO! GULL-CHAN!!
POW
ROAR
POW
POW
GEH
EEE
POW
キュ～ FWUHHH...
MY GOOD-NESS...
FEELS GOOD TO DO THE RIGHT THING!
NYEH HEH!

GULL-CHAAAAN WHERE ARE YOU? (SOB)
HEY PIGGY, SUUEYY!
HE MUST HAVE RUN OFF THIS WAY...
MAYURA DRAGGED ME ALL OVER THIS PLACE EARLIER TODAY, SO I REMEMBER WHERE EVERY-THING IS, MORE OR LESS.
"LAND OF THE SKY CREA-TURES?"
YES. THIS IS WHERE THEY KEEP CAGED BIRDS AND THE LIKE.
!?

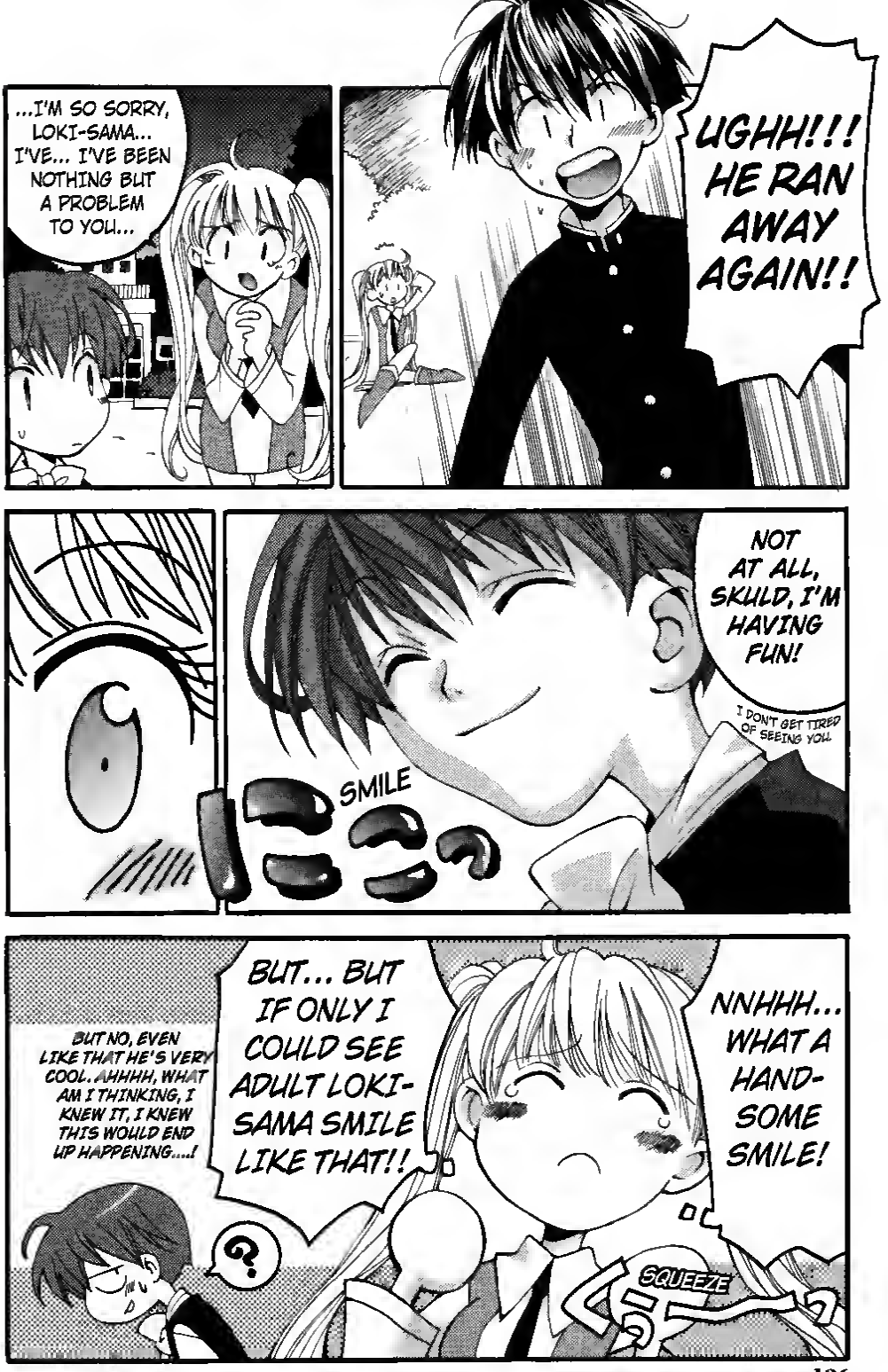

AND FINALLY
THE ZOO IS A DATE SPOT!!
POIT
WITH THE GIRL NAMED MAYURA.
POIT
LOKI-SAMA WENT TO THE ZOO.
AH, ISN'T THAT GULL OVER THERE!?
SKULD-STYLE THINKING.


MM HMM.
NARU-KAMI-KUN... DON'T SPOOK HIM, ALL RIGHT?
SLIDE
SQUE

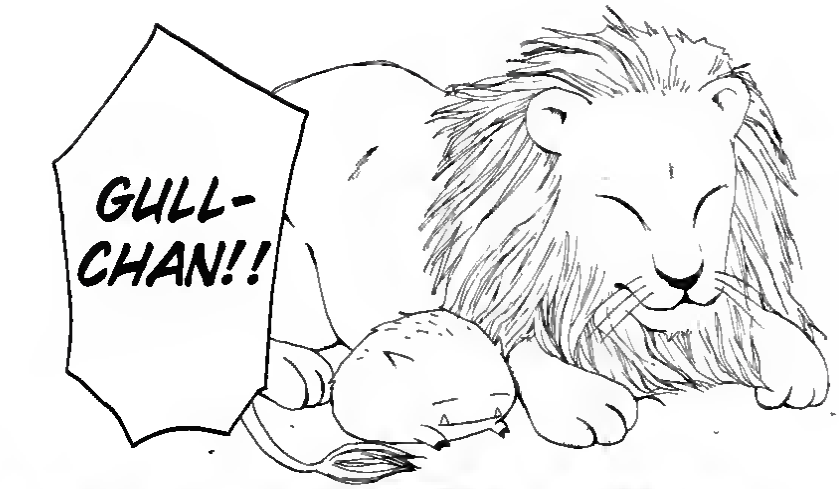
AUH!!
WAHHH!!! LOKI-SAMA'S BEING STOLEN FROM ME!!!
ぴゃ
SPOING

THE LAND OF THE SEA CREA-TURES
STOMP STOMP STOMP STOMP STOMP
WAIT, LOKI-SAMA!
HE WENT OVER THERE THIS TIME!
DAMN!! HE GOT AWAY!
STOMP STOMP STOMP STOMP
THERE ARE SIGNS THAT HE ATE THE OTHER ANIMALS' FOOD....
MAYBE HE'S HUNGRY?
BUT I'VE LIKED LOKI-SAMA FOR SO, SO LONG!! I CAN'T GIVE UP NOW!!
OF COURSE I'D LOVE TO GO OUT TO DINNER WITH YOU!!
SKULD, WHAT DO YOU THINK?
I'M HUNGRY NOW, TOO.

BLUUSH
AHHH LOKI-SAMA....
DON'T MAKE SUCH A GROWN-UP FACE... I CAN'T HANDLE IT....
HMMM... IN THAT CASE....
OH YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT GULL-CHAN... YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT!
WHEN HE'S HUNGRY, HE CAN'T FLY! THAT MUST BE WHY HE HASN'T FLOWN AWAY FROM US YET.....
BA SHOOM!
!?
GULL!!
ALL RIGHT... AT A TIME LIKE THIS, I HAVE TO ENACT THE "LOVE BODY BLOW PLAN!!!"
GRIP
BONK!
LOKI-SAMA, LOVE~!
ALL RIGHT!! NARUGAMI SLASH!!!
RUMBLE
LOKI


...I'M SO SORRY, LOKI-SAMA... I'VE... I'VE BEEN NOTHING BUT A PROBLEM TO YOU...
UGHH!!! HE RAN AWAY AGAIN!!
NOT AT ALL, SKULD, I'M HAVING FUN!
I DON'T GET TIRED OF SEEING YOU
SMILE
BUT... BUT IF ONLY I COULD SEE ADULT LOKI-SAMA SMILE LIKE THAT!!
NNHHH... WHAT A HAND-SOME SMILE!
SQUEEZE
BUT NO, EVEN LIKE THAT HE'S VERY COOL. AHHHH, WHAT AM I THINKING, I KNEW IT, I KNEW THIS WOULD END UP HAPPENING....!
?

THE ONLY PLACE THAT GULL COULD BE IS OVER THERE, RIGHT?
MMH..
WHERE DID THAT LITTLE PIGGY GO?
AHH~
...IF HE'S LEFT THE ZOO BY NOW, THERE'S NO WAY WE'LL EVER FIND HIM...
IT WILL BE ALL RIGHT, SKULD.
I'M...
LOKI-SAMA...


GULL-CHAN!!

....GULL-CHAN, LET'S GO HOME!
HE'S STILL JUST A BABY, SO WHEN LITTLE GULL GOT HUNGRY, ALL BY HIMSELF, HE MUST HAVE GOTTEN LONELY.
AND WANTED TO RETURN HOME, WHERE HIS PAPA GLOWS GOLDEN, EVEN IN THE DARK OF NIGHT.
PHWEE

OUR CAPTURE WAS A SUCCESS!
AHHH I'M SO GLAD... GULL-CHAAAN~
SQUE
SQUE
BANG
BANG
!?
AND NOW I CAN FINALLY RETURN TO ASGAR-
PUNYA?
PWOINK?
WON'T YOU DO US A FAVOR AND HAND OVER THAT BOAR?

YOU BASTARDS! USING A GUN IS SO COWARDLY!!
OH NO! LOKI-SAMA!!
SHUT UP! JUST HAND OVER THE PIG!
...IF YOU SAY SO, LOKI-SAMA...
HMM... SKULD, YOU DON'T MIND IF I LEND LITTLE GULL TO THOSE NICE GENTLEMEN FOR A MOMENT, DO YOU?
COME ON, GUYS. IF YOU DON'T LET ME HAND HIM TO YOU, HE'LL RUN AWAY AGAIN.
THAT'S RIGHT LITTLE BOY. YOU HAVE TO DO WHAT GROWN-UPS SAY.

ARE YOU SURE, LOKI!?
AS LONG AS YOU HAVE A GUN...
I SHOULD TELL YOU, WE HAVE...
DOOOOM
!?

WOOOOHHH
DOOMF
A CHARGING WILD BOAR!!
YA SEE
SQUOINK

AAAHHH! HE'S DOING IT AGAIN!!
IT'S SCARY!
SLUU
UURP
WH-WHAT IS THAT!?
GROSS!
WHEN VERDANDI WAS PATCHING UP LITTLE PUNYAN-SAN, SHE DISCOVERED HE HAD A HIDDEN SECRET TALENT.
EHEHE
COME DOWN TO THE LAB...
MAD SCIENTIST VERDANDI
OH THAT'S RIGHT, VERDANDI TOLD ME TO COME DOWN HERE TO GIVE YOU THIS!
I PUT IT INTO GULL-CHAN FOR SAFE-KEEPING
BWONG
MOFF MRF
BWONG
AHH
SKULD, WHAT IS THAT, WHAT'S HE DOING!!

SOME HOW.. PUN-YAN-SAN CAN...
TA DAH
ABSORB THE EVIL THAT YOU RELEASE!
I HAD NO IDEA.
AND SO, AS SOON AS WE RETURNED PUNYAN-SAN TO YOU, WE USED A PART OF HIM TO MANUFACTURE THIS!
THE BRACELET OF DRAUPNIR!
PLEASE USE IT TO COLLECT THE POWER FROM THE EVIL YOU DRAW OUT OF HUMANS!!
WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I COLLECT IT, THOUGH?
DUNNO!
ANYWAY, LETS SEE HOW COOL IT LOOKS! PUT OUT YOUR HAND!
WEL, IT'S JUST LIKE A WEDDING CEREMONY~
YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW...?
BWUH!

WELL NOW, SKULD. IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU TOLD ME WHAT THE TRUE MEANING OF THOSE PROPHECIES YOU GAVE WAS, ISN'T IT?
GRAB
!?
IN ESSENCE, ODIN IS NOW TRYING TO KILL ME, YES?
WHY?
I... IT'S BECAUSE... ODIN-SAMA WISHES TO REMAIN THE RULER OF ASGARD...
ISN'T HE STILL OUR HIGH LORD?? WHAT'S HE GOT TO WORRY ABOUT?
ETERNAL LIFE IS ONE OF OUR PRIVILEGES AS GODS, AFTER ALL.

THERE IS NOTHING IN THIS UNIVERSE...
...THAT WILL LAST FOR ALL ETERNITY.
BWOOP
!!
BUT...
GULP...
SKULD!!
PCHOO
HEY, WAIT JUST A SEC!!
WE WERE STILL TALK-ING!!

LOKI-SAMA GET BACK YOUR ADULT FORM FAST~
AAAH... WHY DIDN'T YOU TAKE ME WITH YOUUUU...!
SO CHEAP..
OH WELL...
IT IS NOT YET THE TIME FOR US TO RETURN.
MMMH... WELL, EITHER WAY, I STILL HAVE MJOLNIR...
COME, LET'S GO HOME.

I'M SURE YAMINO-KUN IS WORRIED ABOUT US.
AUGH... BACK TO WORK TOMOR-ROW...
LET'S HAVE SOME DINNER AND DO OUR BEST.
PLOD PLOD...

AH, THAT MUST BE LOKI-SAMA.
BING BONG
HMM...?
I'M COMING! WELCOME HOME, LOKI-SAMA!
SHK

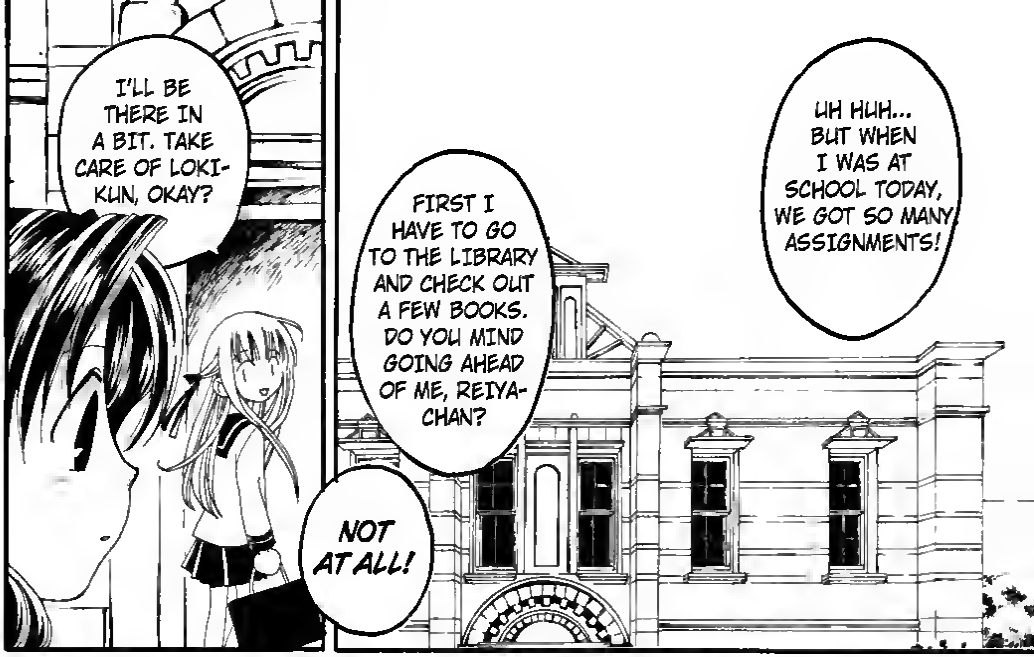
SLUMP...
IT'S NOT FAIR, JORMUNGAND... YOU GET TO BE WITH FATHER ALL OF THE TIME....
....
FATHER IS MINE...

AND AFTER I KILL HIM...
FATHER AND I WILL BE ONE FOR ALL ETERNITY...

NIGHT 24 Father

IN THE LIBRARY THE GODS BESTOWED ON MAN LONG AGO, THERE WAS A SINGULAR BOOK.
IN SAID BOOK, ALL WAS REVEALED.
HOWEVER... ANY WHO REQUESTED IT, DESIRING THAT KNOWLEDGE, WOULD FIND THEMSELVES LOST IN A CORRIDOR WITHOUT END...

I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT YAMINO-SAN COULD HURT HIMSELF SO BADLY...
ESPECIALLY WHILE NOT COOKING...!
MAYURA-SAN!
YES I AM. ARE YOU GOING TO SEE YAMINO-SAN AS WELL, MAYURA-SAN?
OH, REIYA-CHAN. ARE YOU GOING TO LOKI-KUN'S HOUSE?


I'LL BE THERE IN A BIT. TAKE CARE OF LOKI-KUN, OKAY?
NOT AT ALL!
FIRST I HAVE TO GO TO THE LIBRARY AND CHECK OUT A FEW BOOKS. DO YOU MIND GOING AHEAD OF ME, REIYA-CHAN?
UH HUH... BUT WHEN I WAS AT SCHOOL TODAY, WE GOT SO MANY ASSIGNMENTS!

...THIS LIBRARY... IT FEELS JUST A BIT STRANGE TO ME....
!
BLUSH

JUST EAT IT!!!!
ALL RIGHT COME ON!!

AHHH MISO PORK CUTLET... A TRUE WORK OF ART... (SLEEPTALKING)
.....

NARU-KAMI-KUN, YOU COULD REALLY KILL HIM, YOU KNOW.
BE A LITTLE MORE CONSIDER-ATE, WON'T YOU?
...AW, YEAH, ALL RIGHT.

WHY WON'T YOU EAT!?!
SIMMER DOWN, NOW.
I EVEN TOOK THE DAY OFF OF WORK TO COME NURSE YOU BACK TO HEALTH!
DAMMIT!!
AND WHY ARE YOU SLEEPING WITH YOUR GLASSES ON!?
I DON'T GET IT
C'MON!
C'MON!
...

MMF
OH NO, I ACCIDENTALLY ATE IT!!
I HOPE MAYURA-SAN GETS HERE SOON....
WITH GUSTO
MRF
MRF
MHM
CHOMP
YUM.
MOM'S HOME COOKING
MAMA WILL COOL THE CONGEE OFF FOR YOU~
RYU-CHAN
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
BUT, IT WAS A REAL SHOCK...
COMING HOME FROM THE ZOO AND FINDING YAMINO-KUN KEELED OVER IN THE ENTRYWAY.... IT'S A MIRACLE THAT HIS VITAL ORGANS WERE MISSED.
I TOTALLY THOUGHT HE WAS DEAD.
DON'T JUST ASSUME I'M DEAD WITH NO PROOF!!
FWUMP
CUTLET?
SIGH

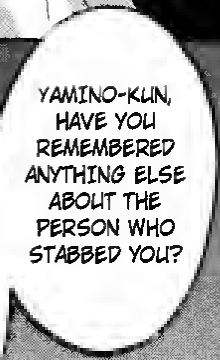
OH, WELL, UH, WHY DID YOU BRING SO MANY SCALLIONS?
IT IS A GET-WELL PRESENT. THEY ARE VERY GOOD FOR COLDS.
HMF
LOKI-SAMA~
I CAME TO HELP YOU!
BUT IT'S NOT A COLD... IT'S NOT A COLD AT ALL...
WEHH
CHMP CHMP
AHHH MAYURA-SAN, PLEASE COME QUICKLY..
HMM... I SEE...
AHHH.. MAYURA-SAN IS MAKING A STOP AT THE LIBRARY, BUT SHE SAID SHE WOULD BE ALONG SOON...
WHERE SHOULD WE PUT THESE SCALLIONS, NOW?
PUT THEM IN THE KITCHEN PANTRY...

LOKI-SAMAAA
AW..... THERE, THERE...
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING, NARUKAMI-KUN??
DERE DERE

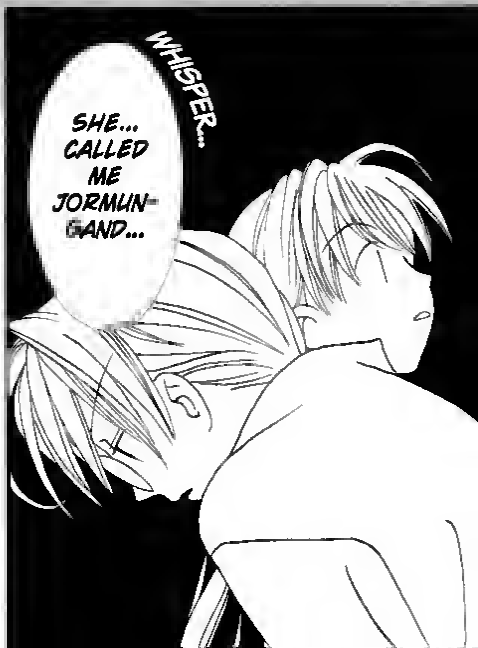
GWAHHHH
IF YOU'RE UP, YOU GO PUT THEM IN THERE.
MY WOUND!!
SPURT

...HMMM... LET ME THINK...

SHE HAD GLASSES AND LONG, CURLY HAIR, RIGHT... WHAT ELSE DO YOU REMEMBER?


YAMINO-KUN, HAVE YOU REMEMBERED ANYTHING ELSE ABOUT THE PERSON WHO STABBED YOU?

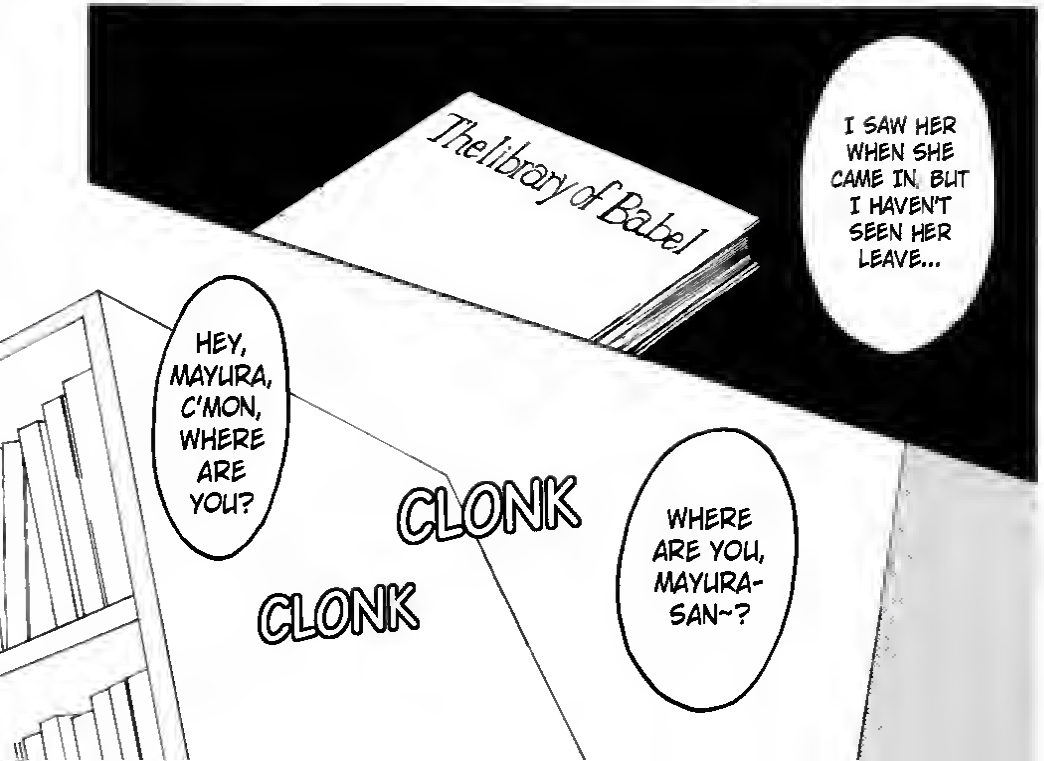
YOU DID? WHERE?
I SAW A GIRL WITH GLASSES! AND SHE HAD FLUFFY HAIR, TOO!


WHISPER...
SHE... CALLED ME JORMUN-GAND...

...SOMEHOW I HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS...
I SAW THE GIRL WITH THE GLASSES THROUGH THE SECOND FLOOR WINDOW. SHE SMILED AT ME IN GREETING.
WHYEVER DO YOU ASK LOKI-SAMA?
AT THE LIBRARY THAT MAYURA-SAN WENT TO... IT WAS A STRANGE PLACE...
.....

LOKI-SAMA WHY DIDN'T YOU BRING NARUGAMI-SAN WITH YOUUUUU...!?
...YES... IT'S JUST AS YOU SAID, REIYA...
IT IS A VERY STRANGE, UNSETTLING FEELING, IN THIS LIBRARY...
HOW TO PUT IT... IT'S A FEELING OF DUST... OF DECAY AND MOLD...
THOUGH IT LOOKS JUST AS A NORMAL LIBRARY SHOULD...
...SOMEHOW JUST BEING HERE, THERE'S AN AIR OF LONELINESS...

KIND OF LIKE THIS?
HAS A GIRL WITH LONG HAIR, WEARING A SAILOR UNIFORM COME BY?
SHE'S KIND OF A SPAZ.....
UM... EXCUSE ME, DO YOU WORK HERE?
YES?
OH MY? THIS IS STRANGE...
I DIDN'T THINK WE HAD THIS BOOK...


The library of Babel
I SAW HER WHEN SHE CAME IN, BUT I HAVEN'T SEEN HER LEAVE...
HEY, MAYURA, C'MON, WHERE ARE YOU?
CLONK
CLONK
WHERE ARE YOU, MAYURA-SAN~?

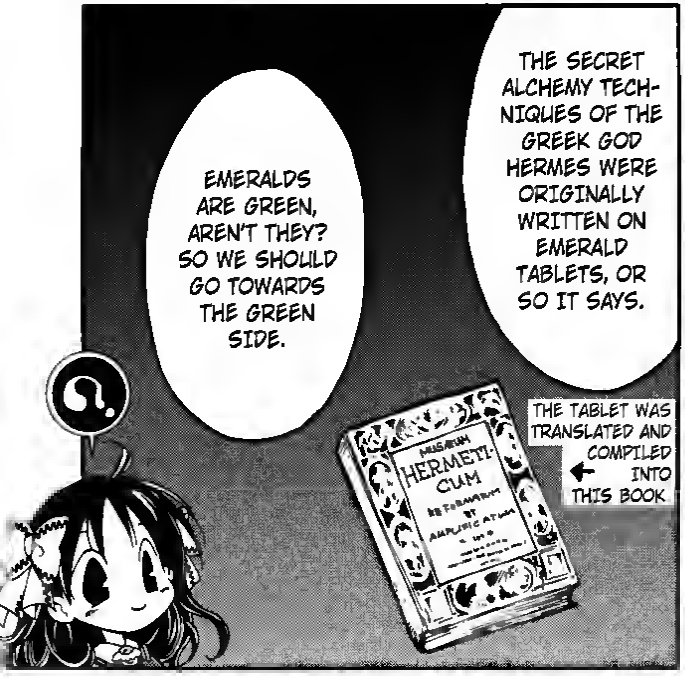
FWOOOOOOOM
!?
.....
KAFF
KAFF
WH..!
THIS...
THIS
IS...!

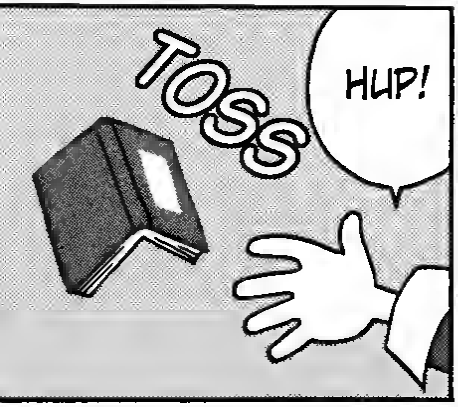
...WHAT THE!? THE ATMOSPHERE IN HERE HAS COMPLETELY CHANGED...!
THOUGH IT'S THE SAME LIBRARY...
THERE ARE SO MANY OLD BOOKS...
IT'S LIKE A GRAVE-YARD FOR BOOKS THAT HAVE BEEN ABANDONED BY MAN...

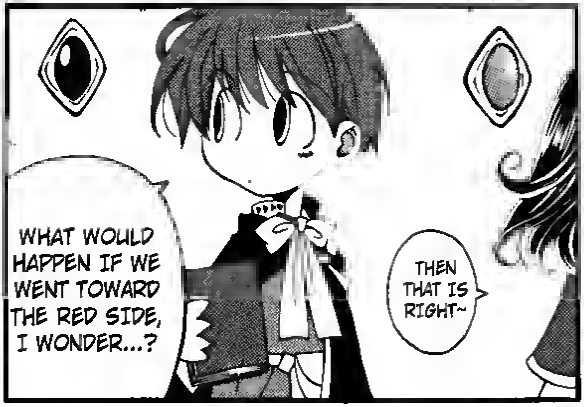
THERE DON'T APPEAR TO BE ANY EXITS...
NOTHING TO DO BUT KEEP GOING.
AND NOW...
ALL OF A SUDDEN THERE'S A T-JUNCTION. WHICH WAY IS MAYURA, I WONDER?
WHAT'S THIS? A BOOK....
OH~ HOW PRETTY. A GREEN STONE AND A RED STONE...
HERME-TICUM?
FLUTTER...

THE SECRETS OF ALCHEMY ARE WRITTEN IN THIS BOOK, ONE OF THE HERMETICUM.
WHY DO YOU SAY THAT?

.....
IT'S GOT TO BE THE SIDE WITH THE GREEN GEM THAT IS CORRECT.

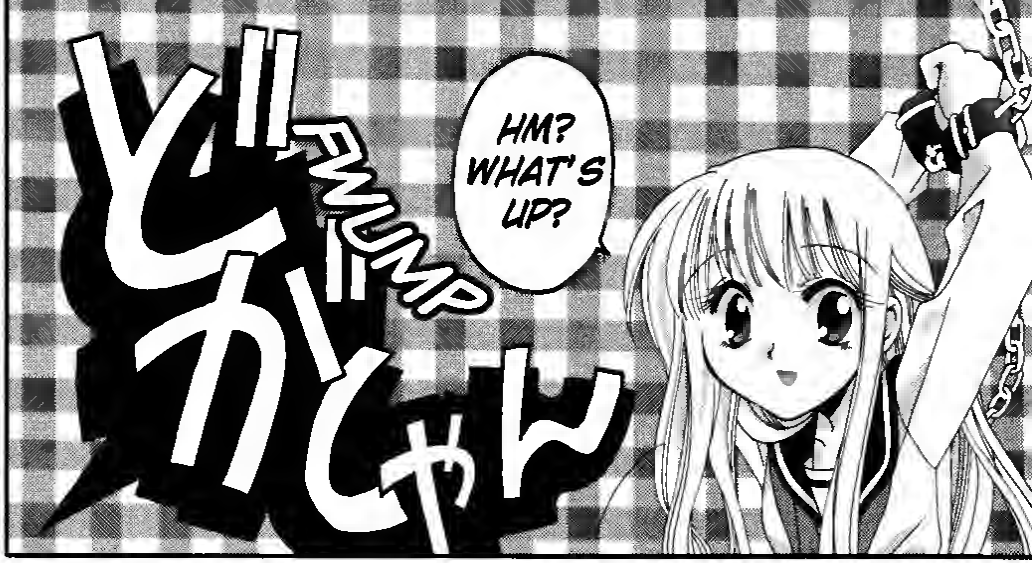

THE SECRET ALCHEMY TECHNIQUES OF THE GREEK GOD HERMES WERE ORIGINALLY WRITTEN ON EMERALD TABLETS, OR SO IT SAYS.
EMERALDS ARE GREEN, AREN'T THEY? SO WE SHOULD GO TOWARDS THE GREEN SIDE.
THE TABLET WAS TRANSLATED AND COMPILED INTO THIS BOOK
HERMETICUM


HUP!
TOSS


WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF WE WENT TOWARD THE RED SIDE, I WONDER...?
THEN THAT IS RIGHT~

CRACKLE
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
I WILL FOLLOW YOUR LEAD, LOKI-SAMA ♡
REIYA... LET'S BE VERY CAREFUL HERE, VERY, VERY CAREFUL.
FWSH
SIZZLE
SIZZLE
.....
BWUHHH
LOKI-SAMA, THERE IS A DOOR HERE—
IT LOOKS LIKE THE DOOR OF A TORTURE CHAMBER FROM THE MIDDLE AGES...
WHAT KIND OF A ROOM IS IT, THEN?

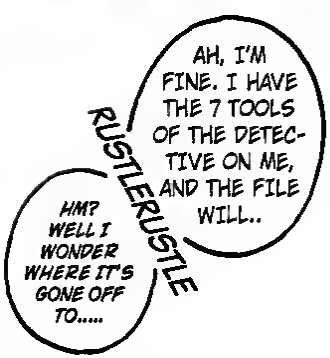
!?
MA-
YU-
RA!!


とりかしゃん
FWUMP
HM? WHAT'S UP?

IT WAS REALLY TIRING!!
DON'T MAKE PRETEND WITH STUFF LIKE THAT!!
AH HA HA HA
MY HAND FELL ASLEEP~

SOMEHOW I JUST GOT LOCKED IN! THE DOOR WON'T OPEN NOW!
WHAT'S THE MATTER, LOKI-SAMA?
IN MYSTERY STORIES, THE HEROINE OFTEN GETS HUNG IN CHAINS IN A TORTURE CHAMBER LIKE THIS, RIGHT?
AND I WASN'T BUSY OR ANYTHING, SO I THOUGHT I'D TRY IT OUT...
KSH
KSH

LOOK, JUST DON'T DO ANYTHING RISKY, AND WAIT HERE!

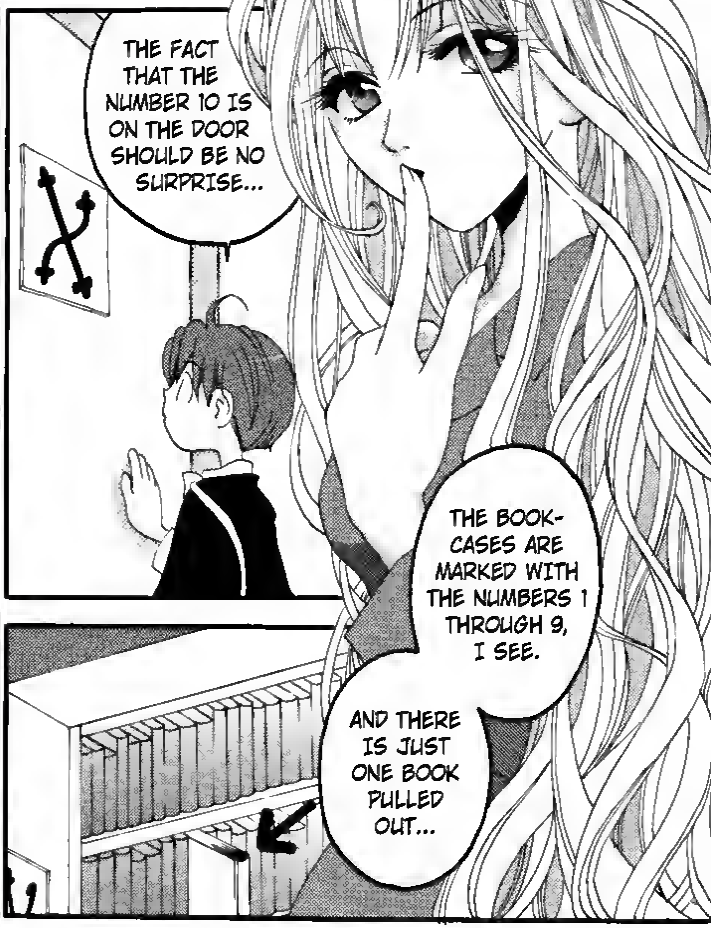

AH, I'M FINE. I HAVE THE 7 TOOLS OF THE DETECTIVE ON ME, AND THE FILE WILL..
RUSTLERUSTLE
HM? WELL I WONDER WHERE IT'S GONE OFF TO.....

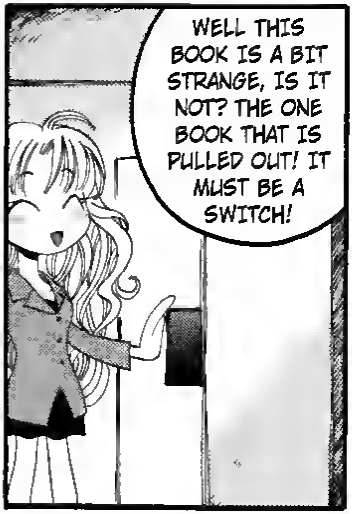
WE'RE GOING TO COME BACK AND GET YOU OUT OF THERE, SO JUST WAIT QUIETLY, OKAY, MAYURA?

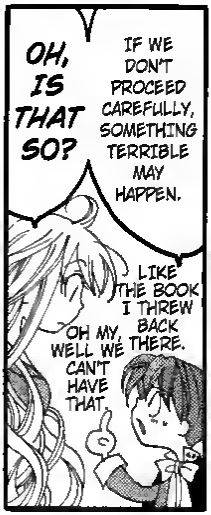
BA DUM
LOKI-SAMA... WON'T YOU PLEASE LOOK AT ME? THINK OF ME?
PANT
PANT
PANT
LOKI-SAMA AND MAYURA-SAN ACT JUST LIKE A QUARRELING HUSBAND AND WIFE FROM TIME TO TIME, DON'T THEY...
SIGHH, I THOUGHT MY HEART WOULD STOP!
I SWEAR, TAKE YOUR EYES OFF HER FOR ONE MINUTE...
....
GRUM BLE
GRUM BLE
FREYA !?!?
BECAUSE I DON'T WISH TO GET DUST IN MY HAIR, PERHAPS.
TA DAH
WELL, WE'VE FOUND MAYURA, BUT I STILL SEE NO WAY OUT OF THIS PLACE...
UGH. I DO SO DESPISE OLD BOOKS...
HUH?

HOW WOULD I KNOW THAT?
WHEN THE CRIES OF REIYA'S HEART REACH THEIR APEX, THE GODDESS OF LOVE AND FERTILIY, FREYA, IS AWAKENED!
I'LL EX-PLAIN, BLUB
HOW DID YOU AWAKEN WITHOUT THE BRISINGAMEN??
!?
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
IT'S FINE, LOKI. DON'T YOU LIKE ADULTS MORE THAN CHILD-REN?
UMMM... DO YOU GET WHAT'S GOING ON?
NOW WHAT'S ALL THIS!?
ALL RIGHT, FREYA, WE'VE GOT TO FIND THE EXIT, AND QUICKLY!
NNGH
?

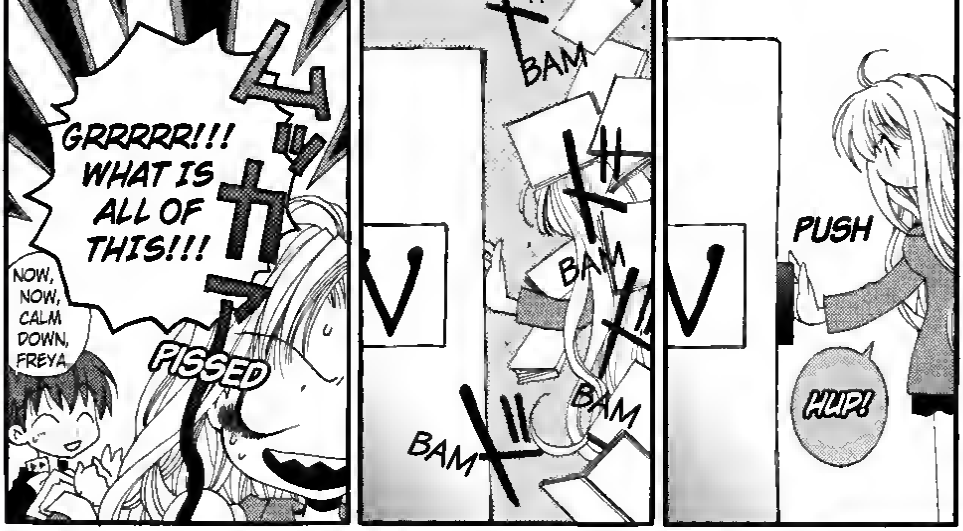
HM...?
Sefer Zohar
THE ZOHAR..?

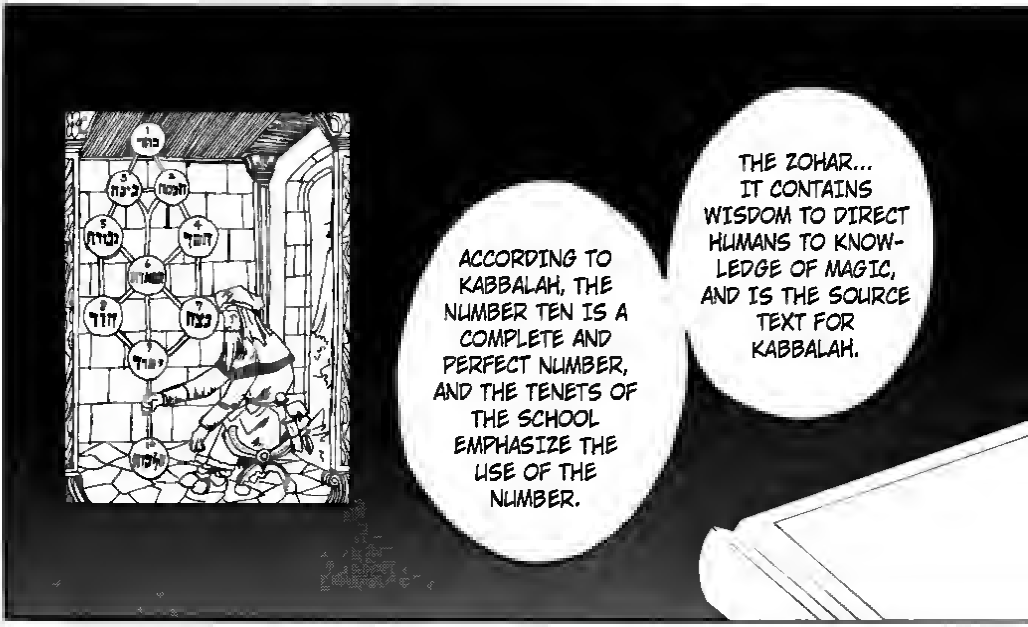

THE FACT THAT THE NUMBER 10 IS ON THE DOOR SHOULD BE NO SURPRISE...
THE BOOK-CASES ARE MARKED WITH THE NUMBERS 1 THROUGH 9, I SEE.
AND THERE IS JUST ONE BOOK PULLED OUT...


WELL THIS BOOK IS A BIT STRANGE, IS IT NOT? THE ONE BOOK THAT IS PULLED OUT! IT MUST BE A SWITCH!

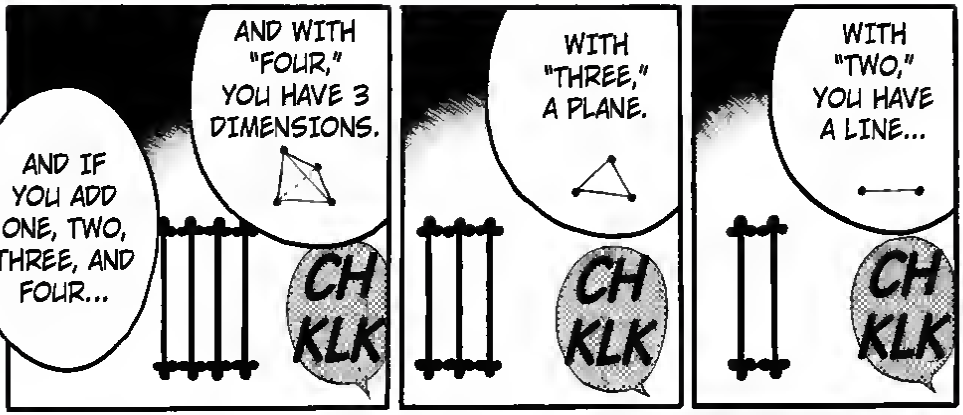

OH, IS THAT SO?
IF WE DON'T PROCEED CAREFULLY, SOMETHING TERRIBLE MAY HAPPEN.
OH MY, WELL WE CAN'T HAVE THAT.
LIKE THE BOOK I THREW BACK THERE.

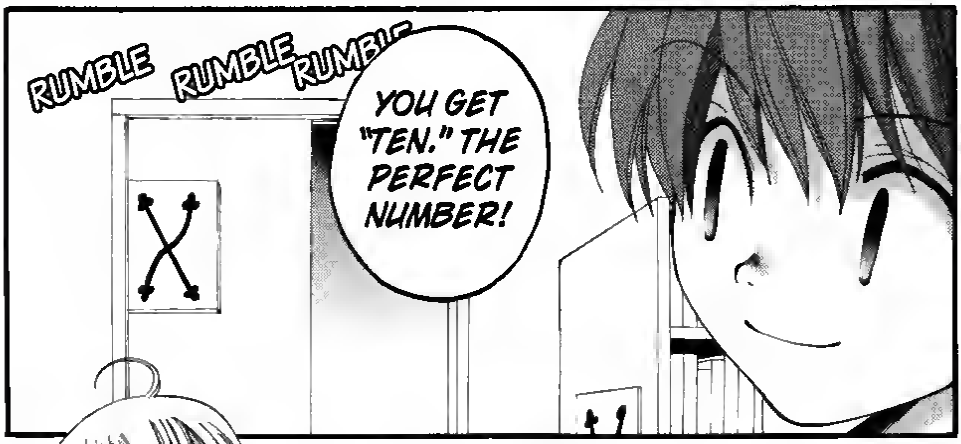
WHOAAA TIME OUT, TIME OUT !!
MOVE OUT OF THE WAY, LOKI. I SHALL TEAR DOWN THE DOOR WITH A RUNE!


GRRRRR!!! WHAT IS ALL OF THIS!!!
NOW, NOW, CALM DOWN, FREYA
PISSED
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
PUSH
HUH!

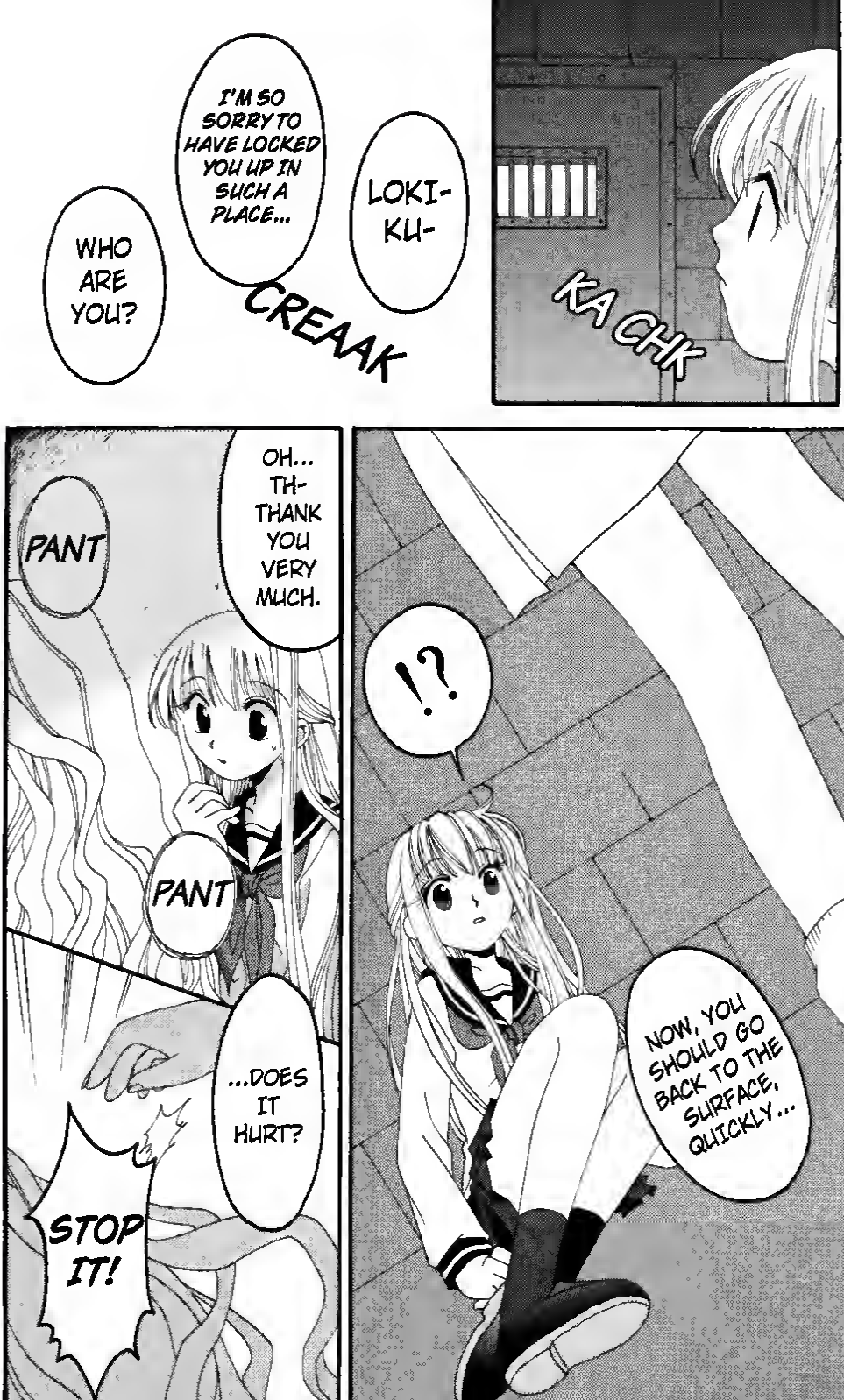

THE ZOHAR... IT CONTAINS WISDOM TO DIRECT HUMANS TO KNOWLEDGE OF MAGIC, AND IS THE SOURCE TEXT FOR KABBALAH.
ACCORDING TO KABBALAH, THE NUMBER TEN IS A COMPLETE AND PERFECT NUMBER, AND THE TENETS OF THE SCHOOL EMPHASIZE THE USE OF THE NUMBER.

CH KLK
THE FIRST THING YOU NEED TO CONSTRUCT THE WORLD IS... "ONE," A SINGLE POINT.
OKAY, BUT WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?


AND WITH "FOUR," YOU HAVE 3 DIMENSIONS.
AND IF YOU ADD ONE, TWO, THREE, AND FOUR...
CH KLK
WITH "THREE," A PLANE.
CH KLK
WITH "TWO," YOU HAVE A LINE...
CH KLK


RUMBLE
RUMBLE
YOU GET "TEN." THE PERFECT NUMBER!

AHHH... LOKI-KUN IS TAKING A LONG TIME...
BUT WHY DOES A LIBRARY HAVE A ROOM LIKE THIS TO BEGIN WITH, ANYWAY...


KA CHK
LOKI-KU-
I'M SO SORRY TO HAVE LOCKED YOU UP IN SUCH A PLACE...
CREAAK
WHO ARE YOU?
!?
NOW, YOU SHOULD GO BACK TO THE SURFACE, QUICKLY...
OH... TH-THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
PANT
PANT
...DOES IT HURT?
STOP IT!

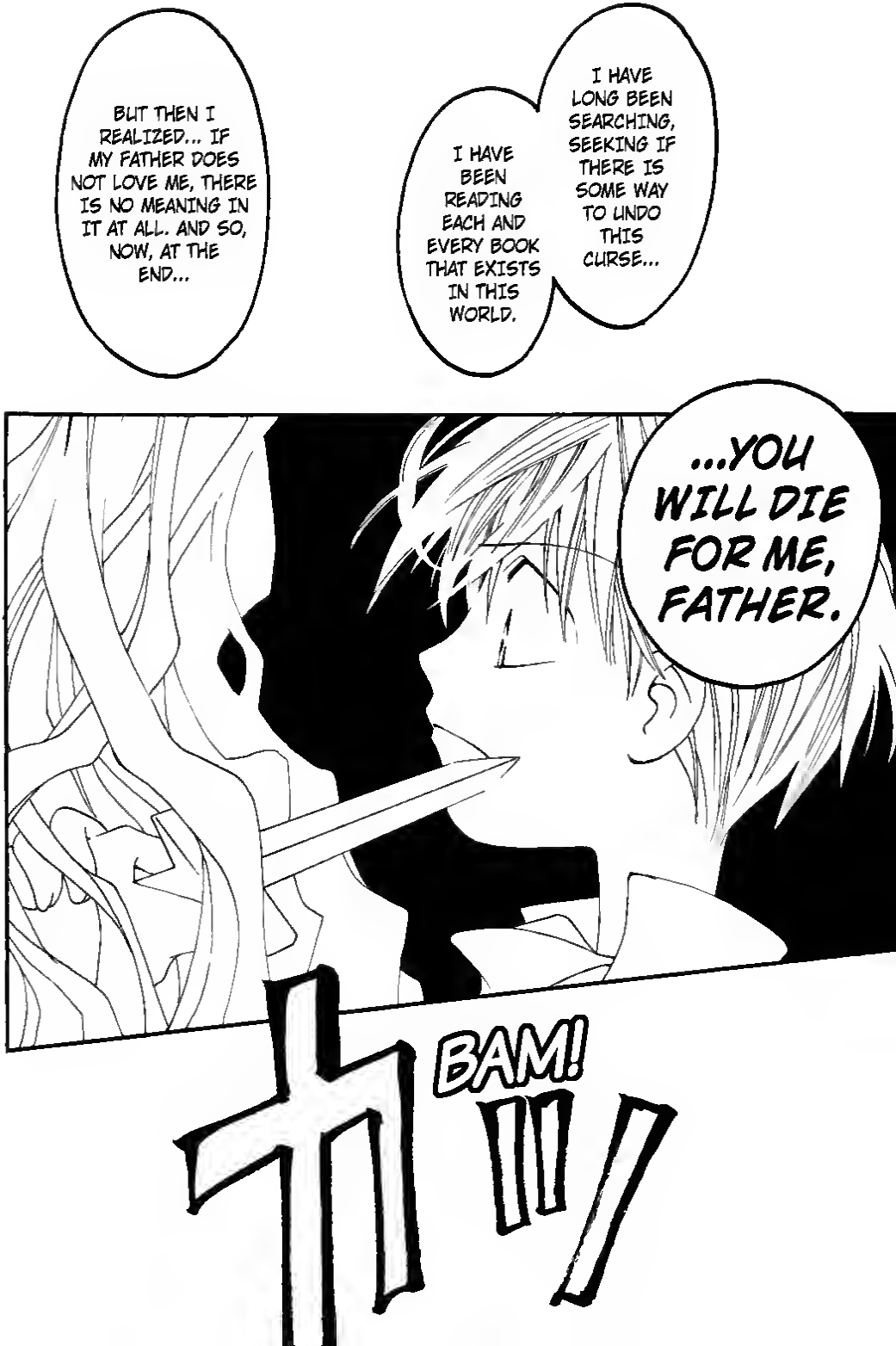
I'M QUITE UNSIGHTLY, SO YOU SHOULD NOT TOUCH ME...
PANT
PANT
...I'M SORRY.
WHERE ARE WE?
CAN I JUST ASK ONE THING?
THIS IS... MY TOMB.
I WONDER IF I WILL EVEN BE ABLE TO KILL FATHER?

AAGH
OH MYYY~ ♥
ALL OF THE ANSWERS UP UNTIL NOW HAVE BEEN OCCULT BOOKS, THEREFORE THIS IS LIKELY...
THOUGH I HAVE SAID WE HAVE TO BE CAREFUL TO CHOOSE CORRECT-LY...
N CRONO
COME IN
WE WERE SUDDENLY THROWN THROUGH THE DOOR!!
DONK
...THE ANSWER TO THIS PUZZLE...
NECRONOMICON

CRAK!!
...BUT WITH TRAPS LIKE THIS, I'VE BEGUN TO WONDER IF THE MASTER OF THIS PLACE WANTS TO KEEP ME OUT OR TO DRAW ME IN....
NECRO-NOMI-CON?
IT'S AN EVIL BOOK THAT APPEARS IN A STORY BY A WRITER NAMED LOVECRAFT.
CREEEAK
IT HAS BEEN SOME TIME...
HASN'T IT, FATHER..
necronomicon
THE NECRO-NOMI-CON!?
THIS BOOK... THERE'S NO WAY THAT IT CAN TRULY EXIST...
IF IT'S HERE... WHAT KIND OF A PLACE...
OWWW

WELCOME TO MY LIBRARY.
HEL!?
HEL... YOU MEAN THE RULER OF THE UNDER-WORLD...?
WHAT BUSINESS DO YOU HAVE WITH LOKI?
HEL IS MY DAUGHTER.
KUNH?

YES... I AM FATHER'S ACCURSED CHILD...
YOUR DAUGHTER, HALF-ROTTEN AND ILL-FAVORED...
THAT'S WHY YOU ABANDONED ME, ISN'T IT...?
NO! HEL, PLEASE! YOU HAVE TO GO BACK TO ASGARD, QUICKLY...!
FATHER... PLEASE LISTEN TO ME? OF LATE, MY DECAY HAS QUICKENED, YOU SEE..
...WHAT DO YOU MEAN?


I HAVE LONG BEEN SEARCHING, SEEKING IF THERE IS SOME WAY TO UNDO THIS CURSE...
I HAVE BEEN READING EACH AND EVERY BOOK THAT EXISTS IN THIS WORLD.
BUT THEN I REALIZED... IF MY FATHER DOES NOT LOVE ME, THERE IS NO MEANING IN IT AT ALL. AND SO, NOW, AT THE END...
...YOU WILL DIE FOR ME, FATHER.
BAM!!!

THAT'S ENOUGH, FREYA...
PANT
PANT
THAT IS QUITE ENOUGH. FOOLISH CHILD. DON'T YOU KNOW THERE IS NO PARENT WHO DOES NOT LOVE THEIR CHILD!?
THE REASON I DIDN'T BRING YOU TO EARTH WITH ME WAS BECAUSE YOUR BODY CANNOT HANDLE THE CONDITIONS HERE.
PLEASE. BE GOOD AND GO HOME TO WAIT FOR ME, HEL.

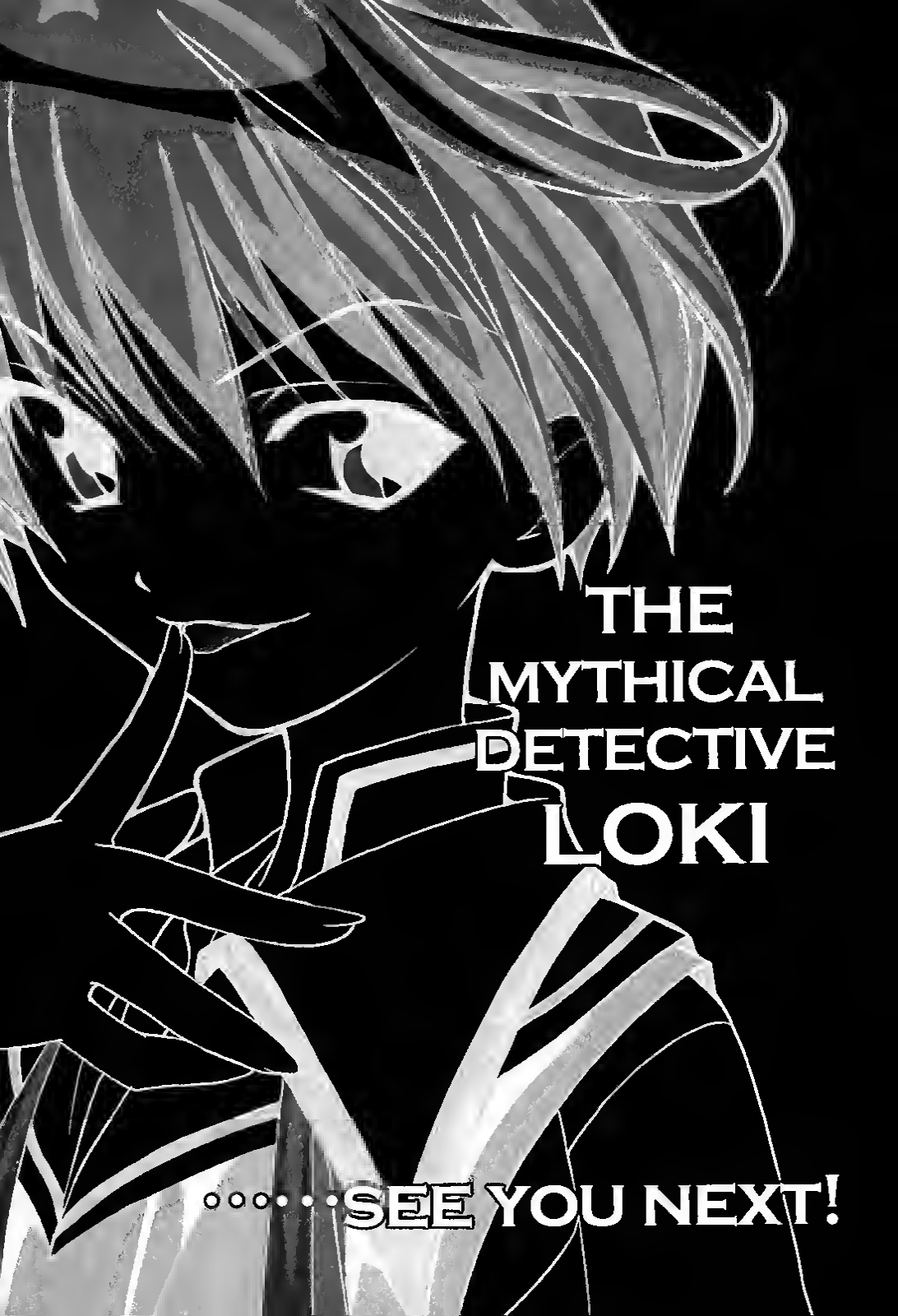
...SO, YOU DIDN'T TOSS ME ASIDE...
...BECAUSE OF HOW UGLY I AM, FATHER...?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU ARE SO VERY...

OH.. IT SEEMS THAT THERE IS NO TIME LEFT FOR ME TO RETURN TO ASGARD...
BEAU-TIFUL...
I'M SO GLAD THAT I WAS ABLE TO HEAR THOSE WORDS AS MY LAST...
FAREWELL, FATHER....
HEL !!

AH! LOKI-KUN, THERE YOU ARE!
I JUST ASKED THE LIBRARIANS ABOUT THE UNDERGROUND TORTURE CHAMBER, AND YOU KNOW, THEY LAUGHED AT ME!
IT'S ALL A PRETTY BIG MYSTE...
.....

WELL, YOU JUST SEEM TO BE A BIT DOWN, SO...
DON'T WORRY, IT'S FINE IF IT'S NOT ALL THE TIME, RIGHT?
...WHY'D YOU TAKE MY HAND ALL OF A SUDDEN, MAYURA?
GRAB
HOW ABOUT WE GO MAKE YAMINO-KUN SOMETHING!
.....
OKAY! THAT'S FINE, I'M FEELING BETTER ALREADY, MAYURA!
I FEEL LIKE THIS WILL GET A BIT DANGEROUS!!
WHAT? AW, LOKI- YOU'RE SO MEAN.
LOKI-SAMA, PLEASE COME HOME SOON....!
GIMME SECONDS!!
PANT
PANT

THE MYTHICAL DETECTIVE LOKI VOLUME 5: END


THE MYTHICAL DETECTIVE LOKI
.....SEE YOU NEXT!